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NEWS SUMMARY

GENERAL

Spain appoints military chiefs
Spain's Cabinet approved the appointment of three military divisional commanders in wider changes than expected. Madrid's commander will be Gen. Ricardo Arzozarena Gilon. As Barcelona's captain-general he was among the first to side against rebels in the 1981 attempted coup. Gen. J. A. Saez de Santamaría took command of Barcelona. He commanded the national police and is a staunch supporter of democracy. Gen. Luis Penilla will command Valladolid.

Gaza deaths
Two Palestinians were killed and 40 wounded by Israeli troops in the Gaza Strip. Israel's Premier Begin appeared optimistic that withdrawal from Sinai would proceed on April 25. Page 2

Pressmen missing
Three UK journalists—Simon Winchester of the Sunday Times and Ian Mather and Tony Prime of The Observer—are believed missing in Argentina.

More home loans
Building society lending in March rose. The societies advanced £1.06bn to homebuyers and committed themselves to lending £1.49bn. Page 3

Mellish decision
Labour MP Bob Mellish will resign his Southwark Bermondsey seat this year. Page 3

Swapo raid
Ten South-West Africa People's Organisation guerrillas and six defence force soldiers were killed as 100 black nationalists continued to penetrate 75 miles into a white farming area near Tsumeb, Namibia.

Policeman dies
Ulster police sergeant David Brown, 53, died 16 days after being ambushed by IRA gunmen in Belfast.

Press link cut
Links with Singapore's Straits Times Group were severed by the Melbourne group Herald and Weekly Times. The move is because of the appointment as Straits Times executive chairman of a former Singapore Intelligence chief who retired aged 57, as Foreign Ministry Permanent Secretary.

Wimbledon hope
Wimbledon officials still hope Björn Borg will change his mind and not miss this year's championships rather than play in the qualifying tournament.

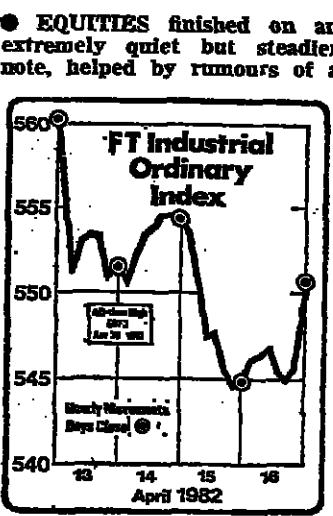
Quebec call
Three hours after the Queen's arrival in Canada, Quebec Premier René Lévesque called for independence for the province.

Mitterrand pledge
President Mitterrand told Japan's parliament France could not give up its defensive nuclear weapons. France and Japan closer on technology. Page 2

Briefly...
Bruneval said the 40th anniversary will be marked there on June 20 in ceremonies attended by Prince Charles and President Mitterrand.
Peasant aged 140, who said he worked on Bagamoya slave caravans, died in Tanzania.

BUSINESS

Equities steadier; £ still nervous
EQUITIES finished on an extremely quiet but steadier note, helped by rumours of a solution to the Falklands crisis. The FT 30-share index closed 5.9 higher at 550.7. Page 28



GILTS tended easier, but losses were pared in late dealing. The FT Government Securities index closed 0.09 lower at 66.50. Page 28

STERLING fluctuated to close at \$1.761 (\$1.762). It was unchanged at \$1.1095, but slipped to DM 4.2975 (DM 4.2725, and SwFr 3.46 (SwFr 3.4225). Its trade-weighted index was 90.3 (89.5). Page 27

DOLLAR closed at DM 2.4215 (DM 2.4235), SwFr 1.976 (SwFr 1.975) and ¥247.7 (¥248.25). Its index slipped to 116.3 (116.5). Page 27

GOLD fell 75 cents to \$362.5 in London. Page 27

WALL STREET was 3.43 higher at 843.04 shortly before the close. Page 24

FRENCH EMPLOYERS have been awarded substantial concessions by Prime Minister Pierre Mauroy in an effort to stimulate investment and win the backing of private industry. Back Page

PORTUGAL has been told by M. Gaspar Thomaz, president of the EEC Commission, that it must work very hard if it wants to join the Community by 1994. Page 3

INDIA'S critical shortage of foreign currency is being eased by the IMF, which is allowing an early drawing on its credit. Back Page

EMPLOYERS do not think the closed shop in industry damages the economy, according to Mr. David Waddington, Under-Secretary of State for Employment. Page 4

ITALIAN net industrial production fell 2.3 per cent in 1981 according to statistics issued in Rome.

HOSKALIS WESTMINSTER, the Dutch contracting group, reported a sharp fall in 1981 net profit to Fl 20.4m (£4.3m) from Fl 51.5m in 1980 despite higher turnover. Page 25

PIRELLI, the Italian tyre and cable group, has announced a sweeping reorganisation to unify its international management a year after its separation from Eni. Dunlop. Page 25

REFUGEE ASSURANCE is making an agreed bid of £13.8m to acquire over 5m shares of General and Commercial Investment Trust. Page 22

NORTHERN FOODS is buying for £187m the pie, fan and sausage business of FCM, the meat processing group. Page 4

Hopes improve for U.S. peace efforts

BY JIMMY BURNS AND ANDREW WHITLEY IN BUENOS AIRES

U.S. EFFORTS to avert war between Britain and Argentina over the Falkland Islands appear to have taken on a new lease of life. Indications of possible progress came yesterday when it was learned that Gen Leopoldo Galtieri, the Argentine President, told President Ronald Reagan on Thursday night that Argentina wanted a peaceful settlement of the two-week crisis. He said it should be based on Britain's United Nations resolution calling for withdrawal of Argentina's occupation forces and an end to hostilities. Gen Galtieri's offer came only hours before the return to Buenos Aires of Mr. Alexander Haig, U.S. Secretary of State, for what was expected to be a crucial leg of his shuttle peace mission. Yesterday's talks between Mr. Haig and Gen Galtieri took place against a background of the sailing of the Argentine fleet, which threatened a possible clash with the approaching British task force already in the South Atlantic. Elements of the Royal Navy fleet were seen yesterday off

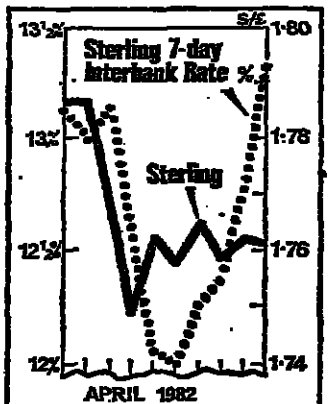
Ascension Island, 3,500 from the Falklands. After an early morning meeting with Gen Galtieri, described by a spokesman as "frank and useful," the Argentine and U.S. teams got down to working out details of a framework agreement to be taken to London, possibly over the weekend. The package likely to be put forward to Mr. Galtieri is expected to include a proposal for a tripartite group to administer the islands temporarily. It was suggested here yesterday that these could involve British, U.S., and Argentine officials, though in the past Britain has resisted this idea. The package may recommend replacement of Argentine troops on the island by a third-party peacekeeping force. Such a package would be aimed at preparing the ground for a longer-term agreement on the crucial issue of sovereignty and the permanent administration of the islands. It would leave open for further discussion the participation of the islands in such an administration, and how they would exercise their right to self-determination. Yesterday afternoon Mr. Haig was expected to return to the Argentine Foreign Ministry for further meetings with Sr. Nicanor Costa Mendez, the Argentine Foreign Minister. When he arrived in Buenos Aires Mr. Haig called for a "supreme effort" and for "great flexibility on both sides." Sr. Costa Mendez simply said he was more optimistic than on the previous day. How long the U.S. team will stay in Buenos Aires is still undecided, though one report suggested that Mr. Haig might fly overnight to London if sufficient progress was made. Differences are believed to have emerged within the Argentine armed forces this week over the wisdom of a military confrontation with Britain. There was growing apprehension that an extension of the conflict could lead to a long-term Soviet gain in the region. Pressure on Gen Galtieri to adopt a more conciliatory

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Falkland news, Page 2
Editorial comment, Page 20
Clash of two navies, Page 20

Bank acts on interest rates

By William Hall and John Moore

THE BANK of England acted to stem a further rise in short-term interest rates yesterday at the end of a nervous week in the financial markets, which have been overshadowed by the political uncertainties of the Falkland Islands crisis. Short-term interest rates rose sharply in the London money market yesterday morning forcing the Bank of England to



step in and prevent any significant rise in interest rates. During its money market operations in the morning it cut its minimum intervention rate for the shortest paper it buys, known as Band 1 bills, by 1 of a per cent—the first reduction since early March. In addition, after lunch it took the unusual step of "cutting" the amount of paper it issued. Although the discount houses bid for £255m of the £100m bills on offer, the Bank only allotted £60m, presumably because it did not like the rates offered by the discount houses. It is rare for the Bank not to issue all the bills it offers and the market interpreted the move as an effort to stabilise the nervous money markets. The initiative appeared to work and

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\$ in New York		
	April 15	Previous
Spot	\$1.7610-7650	\$1.7645-7660
1 month	0.34-0.35	0.35-0.37
3 months	0.75-0.80	0.75-0.85
12 months	2.35-2.45	2.45-2.55

Health service faces major pay battle

BY IVO DAWNEY, LABOUR STAFF

THE PROSPECT of a major pay battle between the Government and health service workers grew yesterday when the National Union of Public Employees' executive voted unanimously to recommend industrial action to its 300,000 NHS members.

The decision follows the announcement on Tuesday that the 230,000-strong Confederation of Health Service Employees, will take sanctions, including a ban on non-emergency admissions, from April 26. Local branches of Nupe are expected to back their executive's recommendation within a fortnight. The growing militancy in the health service comes after the breakdown of talks with management over a 12 per cent pay claim put jointly by all 14 NHS unions at meetings of the National Whitley Council. The employers remain adamant that they cannot improve their offer of 6.4 per cent for nurses and 4 per cent for ancillary workers and other groups. They have also refused to allow the 12 per cent claim to go to independent arbitration. Other health service unions are expected to back industrial action, after the big response to a one-hour national stoppage called by the TUC's health services committee on Wednesday. However, Mr. Norman Fowler, the Social Services Secretary,

said this week the unions' claim was "unrealistic." Jobs would be lost if a higher settlement was agreed, he added. The Government's rigidity has angered the unions because some public sector pay settlements have exceeded the 4 per cent limit. In addition, the civil servants and teachers' claims have been allowed to go to arbitration. The unions believe the £81.9m addition to the budget for health service pay, made last month, is an attempt to isolate the more militant ancillary workers from the public support enjoyed by non-striking nurses. The vast majority of the extra cash will go to Britain's 450,000 nurses. Mr. Alan Fisher, Nupe's general secretary, said the form of industrial action would be decided after consultations with members and the TUC's health services committee. But it could include strike action. "The outcome will be hospitals dealing with emergency cases only and it will inevitably slow down the health service and bring it to a stop," he warned. Mr. Fisher said the Government had brought the action on itself by refusing to take "the only honourable course" of allowing the claims to go to arbitration. He said some health workers would get only 79p extra in take home pay each week, if they accepted a 4 per cent rise.

Chloride Gaedor to close or sell 49 depots

BY DUNCAN CAMPBELL-SMITH

CHLORIDE GAEDOR's nationwide chain of electrical accessory depots for the motor trade is to be cut in a drastic reorganisation by the parent Chloride group, one of Britain's major battery manufacturers. Chloride intends to close or sell 49 of its 70 depots—some of which have served motorists as well as the trades. Sales of one or more depots to their management are under discussion. Chloride said some key suppliers had also expressed interest in the

chain, which has lost over £2m in the past 12 months. The group made clear yesterday that the level of redundancies would depend on the outcome of the sales talks. The chain has 850 workers but only 100 will be employed in the 21 depots Chloride will retain. These 21 will be restricted to the wholesale distribution of Exide batteries, the largest of the group's three automotive battery makers and a national brand leader. Continued on Back Page

Workers at Massey Ferguson tractor plant vote to end strike

BY ARTHUR SMITH, MIDLAND CORRESPONDENT

WORKERS at Massey Ferguson's Coventry tractor plant voted overwhelmingly yesterday to end their damaging strike after the company offered to withdraw compulsory redundancy notices. The dispute, which cost £10m in lost production, has drawn repeated warnings from the management that the future of the company was at risk. Shop stewards who called yesterday's mass meeting to urge continuation of the strike instead recommended an agreement thrashed out in more than eight hours of talks with the management. But there was a dispute last night over the exact terms of the deal. Mr. Jimmy Dunn, the convenor, reported to the meeting that the militant action had saved 111 jobs. He said that the company had merely accepted broad proposals put forward by the unions before the dispute began. Massey Ferguson disagreed, however. It claimed that dismissal notices had been lifted on 111 workers because volunteers for redundancy had come forward from other parts of the factory. The company had successfully achieved the planned cut of 475 jobs necessary to make the plant internationally competitive. The 3,300 manual workers walked out more than two weeks ago when the company implemented compulsory redundancies for the first time. The unions, which insisted that work sharing was an alternative, barricaded the gates to the plant and prevented entry of the 700 staff. Throughout the strike, the company has seen volunteers as the way to defuse the confrontation and has taken accommodation in a Coventry hotel to deal with applications. Coventry union officials, while uncertain about the details of the deal, saw the outcome as "a significant victory" after a succession of reverses. Mr. George Gettelevs, Coventry district organiser of the Transport and General Workers Union said at least the workers had stood firm to resist compulsory redundancies. "The com-

pany has merely copied everything done so successfully by Sir Michael Edwards, the BL chairman. But it has backfired. As the strike has gone on, workers have been more determined to stay out," he said. He pointed to management letters to workers warning that work would be transferred to overseas plants, the doubts cast upon the motives of shop stewards, and the decision to conduct a secret postal ballot under the auspices of the Electoral Reform Society. "This has bred an attitude of defiance. If the company wants to play it that way, we have nothing to lose and will take them on," Mr. Gettelevs said. Union leaders concede such a mood is surprising, given the record unemployment in Coventry approaching 16 per cent and company warnings that at least 4,000 jobs in the city are at risk. Massey Ferguson emphasised last night the importance of a resumption of work in order to restore confidence in the efficiency and reliability of the Coventry plant.

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Redland bids for Cawoods

BY RAY MAUGHAN

REDLAND emerged yesterday as the bidder for Cawoods Holdings and has agreed share terms which currently value the fuel distribution and building materials group at £137.5m. But the bidder is not taking on one of Cawoods' principal assets, a holding in LASMO, and the 9.1 per cent stake in the oil and gas exploration and production group which is worth £20.5m can be retained by Cawoods shareholders. The proposed deal is very much the creation of Baring Brothers, the long-standing merchant banking advisor to both Redland and Cawoods. Redland has now engaged Morgan Grenfell to conduct its offer. But its former advisor proposed the idea first to Mr. Edward Binks, the chairman and chief executive of Cawoods, before inviting Redland, the roofing tiles, aggregates and clay bricks group, to see if we wanted to talk," Mr. Colin Corness, Redland's chairman,

said yesterday. Baring's plan fell on fertile ground. Mr. Binks, aged 69, had, he said, "come to the conclusion some time ago that if a suitable predator or marriage partner came along, this was the time to accept it." Cawoods, he said, had reached the point "where major opportunities for expansion could more readily be taken as a member of a larger group." Talks with Ultramar, the oil producer, broke down a year ago. Cawoods had also looked at Blue Circle Industries' aggregates business, finally acquired for £37.6m this week by Amey Roadstone. Its approach to Hoveringham Gravel, presented jointly with RMC, was topped by a bid from Tarmac. Mr. Corness said that, at first sight, the LASMO stake added too many complications, but the bidder was now "allowing the energy stake to pass through our hands." Cawoods insisted that its own

shareholders be given an opportunity to retain their interest in LASMO and, for Redland's part, Mr. Corness said, "We were certainly not prepared to pay a premium to hold a stake in a company which we could buy through the market." The proposed deal has not yet been taken to the Office of Fair Trading although the two companies are now preparing information for the department. Redland is not involved in fuel distribution which is Cawoods' core business, contributing just over half its £137.5m profit before tax in the year to March and a major force in the rise to £18.4m in the financial year just ended. Coal and oil distribution will give Redland a fourth division, the bidder stated, which would not only counter the building industry's weakness through a harsh winter but would add a strong cash flow business. Bids and Deals, Page 22
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PROFIT FROM THE CHANGING FINANCIAL SCENE

Major changes in the U.S. banking system are now proposed which promise highly profitable returns to investors.
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(Prices in pence unless otherwise indicated)

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Cawoods	290 + 17	St. George's Group	116 + 5
Channel Tunnel	95 + 10	Thorn EMI	427 + 7
Gen. & Comel. Inv.	240 + 16	Candover	185 + 7
GEU	805 + 13	Carless Capel	178 + 15
GKN	157 + 4	RTZ	424 + 5
Hawker Siddeley	296 + 6	Trans'l Cons. Ltd.	531 + 11
Lund Securities	278 + 6		
Mixconcrete	99 + 8		
Pearson Locomot.	332 + 9		
P. & O. Delv.	131 + 5		
Plessey	367 + 7		
Ruboid	142 + 7		

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OVERSEAS NEWS

S. Africa plans R5bn power projects

By Bernard Simon in Johannesburg

SOUTH AFRICA'S Electricity Supply Commission has announced four projects to expand its generating capacity by almost 10,000 megawatts at a cost of over R5bn (£2.8bn).

The projects include two new coal-fired power stations, each with a capacity of 3,800 MW, a 400-MW pump storage scheme which will also improve Cape Town's water supply, and a 1,200 MW extension to the Lethabo Power Station, at present under construction.

One of the new power stations will be sited in the south-eastern Transvaal, and the other in the northern Orange Free State, south of Vereeniging.

Anglo-American Coal Corporation and Transvaal Consolidated Lands, a subsidiary of Barlow Rand, have been awarded contracts to supply coal to the two plants, and each will build a new colliery.

Mugabe names new Ministers

By Our Salisbury Correspondent

ON THE eve of the second anniversary of Zimbabwe's independence, Mr Robert Mugabe, the Prime Minister, has announced new Cabinet appointments designed to win support from the country's 175,000 whites and the Zapu political party led by Mr Joshua Nkomo.

The new appointments include full Cabinet rank for three Nkomo (Zapu) supporters and one white. Mr Chris Anderson, a former Ian Smith Cabinet Minister, has been appointed Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office with special responsibility for the public service.

Another former supporter of Mr Smith—Mr John Landau—has been made Deputy Minister for Trade and Commerce.

Dr Calistus Ndiro, a supporter of Mr Nkomo, has been made Minister of Construction. Mr Cephas Mupfema, formerly Deputy Minister of Manpower, has been promoted to the full Cabinet position of Minister of Water Resources and Development.

Mr John Nkomo (no relation of Mr Joshua Nkomo) has been made Minister of State in the office of the Premier.

France and Japan move closer on technology

BY RICHARD C. HANSON IN TOKYO

FRANCE and Japan have moved toward closer ties in a broad range of scientific, technological and cultural matters. The historic state visit of M Francois Mitterrand, the French President, this week appears to have produced only "friendly gestures" in the strained area of bilateral trade.

Mitterrand wound up the first part of the visit, the inaugural official trip by a French head of state, saying at a Press conference that France and Japan were "partners before competitors." He warned that if Japan did nothing to reduce its large trade surplus with Europe "barriers" will be put up.

On the other hand, the President said the responsibility for France increasing its presence in Japan lies "primarily with the French. Really we don't know much about Japan," he said candidly.

The assessment in Japan is that the most important result of the talks held between the two leaders and four Ministers, on each side was that France has shown a much greater interest in closer bilateral relations than in the past.

The French are especially keen on joint technology and science development in such fields as nuclear power, life sciences and new materials. The two sides have already agreed to cooperate on joint exploration of the sea bed around Japan, starting in 1984, a long discussed project. It is not yet clear, however, how many new projects may get under way.

In order to bolster cultural exchanges, each government agreed to build a cultural centre in the other's country. Mitterrand said that study of the Japanese language would be emphasised in France.

On the trade front neither side was quite as effusive, but on balance, each appeared anxious to avoid direct clashes.

Japan offered to cut the tariff on brandy by roughly the same 10 per cent allowed for imported whisky in an earlier package of tariff reductions. France diplomatically shifted a demand for imports of a special type of restricted wheat flour used in making French bread.



President Francois Mitterrand (right) and Japan's Prime Minister, Mr. Zenko Suzuki meet for talks.

The Japanese Government expressed its "hope" that major French products, such as helicopters and airbuses, will be considered for purchase by the private sector in Japan.

Mitterrand today will tour a Japanese Government science and technology centre outside Tokyo, in Tsukuba.

Honda and Peugeot subsidiary sign two pacts

BY YOKO SHIBATA IN TOKYO

HONDA MOTOR, the world's largest motorcycle manufacturer, and Cycles Peugeot, a subsidiary of France's Peugeot motor group, have signed two final agreements on two-wheeled motor vehicles (mopeds and scooters), Honda said yesterday.

Under the first, Cycles Peugeot will undertake the manufacturing of two types of two-stroke engines for use in

Honda mopeds being assembled at the Honda Benelux plant in Belgium.

The significance of the agreement is the increase in the provision of locally-supplied components in Honda's Benelux mopeds by shifting production sources of moped engines from Japan to France.

Cycles Peugeot will start

making one of the two types of engine in November for Honda's EX-50 mopeds. Production of the other engine, which is still being developed by Honda, is expected to begin next February to be mounted on a new model to be manufactured by the Honda Benelux plant.

Some 50,000 engines will be supplied annually by the French company.

The main feature of the second agreement is that Cycles Peugeot will produce a scooter with either 50 cc or 80 cc engines, all under licence from Honda. They will be marketed in Europe under Cycles Peugeot's brand name through Cycles Peugeot's sales networks.

Mr William Desazars, executive vice-president of Cycles Peugeot, said the agreement followed 14 months of talks.

production target of 20,000 units. Honda will export its own scooters to Europe, but it hopes eventually to assemble them at Honda's Benelux plant in Belgium with engines purchased from Cycles Peugeot.

Ford raises car prices in West Germany by 3.9%

BY KEVIN DONE IN FRANKFURT

FORD-WERKE, the West German subsidiary of Ford of the U.S., has followed the market leaders Volkswagen and Opel by imposing its second round of price increases in less than four months.

All three volume car makers have suffered from plunging profits in the last two years—Opel announced earlier this week an after-tax loss of DM 582.8m (£197.6m) for 1981—caused partly by the recession in the domestic car market.

The rises, which follow national wage settlements in the car industry and sharply rising steel prices, have been imposed despite the fact that many car dealers are still offering considerable discounts.

Ford said yesterday that it is raising its car prices by an average of 3.9 per cent. Its last price increase of 1.9 per cent came into effect on January 2.

Despite opposition from its workforce, Volkswagen has raised its prices twice in the last four months—by 2.9 per cent at the end of March. Opel followed suit this week with a price rise of 3.8 per cent after an increase of 2.5 per cent in January.

The price rises have been pushed through despite the depressed state of the domestic car market. New car registrations dropped by 3.9 per cent to 2.33m last year following a drop of 7.5 per cent in 1980.

Gandhi visits Saudi Arabia

Prime Minister Indira Gandhi

Prime Minister Indira Gandhi leaves today at the head of a high-powered Indian delegation for a four-day visit to Saudi Arabia in a bid both for large investments and to obtain Arab political support for India's role in south Asia. Mrs Gandhi is also hoping that the Saudis will not back Pakistan's efforts to rearm.

At present, Saudi investment in India is marginal while Indian firms have only a negligible role in Saudi Arabia's development plans because of that country's preference for the West and Japan. The Indians have concrete plans for investments including civil construction projects in India and Saudi Arabia.

Sharp fall in U.S. corporate profits

BY ANATOLE KALETSKY IN WASHINGTON

PROFITS OF U.S. industrial and financial corporations fell sharply in the last quarter of 1981 to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$177.8bn (£100.8bn) after stock and depreciation adjustments.

Profits for 1981 as a whole were \$191.7bn, slightly higher than the 1980 figure of \$182.7bn, after stock adjustments and depreciation.

Statistics on corporate profits released yesterday by the Commerce Department showed that profits in the fourth quarter of last year were somewhat lower than the preliminary estimates issued a month ago.

The breakdown by industries showed that manufacturing corporations suffered a decline of \$17.1bn in profits between the third and fourth quarters, with petroleum, metal industries and consumer durables hardest hit. Motor manufacturers' losses were somewhat smaller in the fourth quarter than in the third quarter of last year.

Profits of financial corporations decreased by \$0.5bn between the third and fourth quarters, compared with a fall of \$1.8bn in the third quarter. Most of the fall was due to large losses by the savings and loan associations.

Israelis kill two and wound 40 in Gaza Strip

BY PATRICK COCKBURN IN JERUSALEM

TWO PALESTINIANS, one a boy, were killed, and at least 40 wounded by Israeli soldiers in the Gaza Strip yesterday in continuing protests over the Easter Sunday shooting on the Temple Mount.

In Jerusalem there was heavy security in the old city to ensure that Friday prayers in Al-Aksa mosque on the Temple Mount passed off peacefully. Lines of police and soldiers turned away all those under 30 years of age seeking to enter the precincts of the mosque. Only 2,000 were able to attend the prayers, compared with a normal congregation of about 10,000.

Israel troops had taken up positions in buildings overlooking the Temple Mount area, where only Moslems are allowed to worship. Lines of police in white riot helmets and carrying long batons kept out most of those who had come to pray and the prayer leader was warned against delivering an inflammatory speech.

In Jerusalem, the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, almost all shops and businesses remain closed, obeying the call for a seven-day strike made by the local Islamic Higher Council after Sunday's shooting.

The authorities now confirm that one of the two Palestinians shot dead last Sunday was not killed by Alan Goodman, an Israeli soldier of American origin. This is evidence for claims by Moslem leaders that, in addition to Goodman, other armed Jewish extremists took part in the shooting. The Israeli army has also come under criticism for indiscriminate firing while breaking up the demonstration which followed Goodman's arrest.

The Israeli army has also been attacked for its actions in trying to suppress the strike in the Golan Heights by 13,000 villagers, members of the heterodox Moslem Druze sect. They have refused to accept Israeli identity cards since the area was annexed to Israel in December.

Mr Haim Cohn, former deputy president of Israel's Supreme Court and chairman of the Association for Civil Rights in Israel, has denounced the treatment of the Druze as "the law of barbarians." The resistance of the Druze, who had cooperated fully with the Israeli administration between the capture of the area from Syria in 1967 and annexation last year, is now causing the Government serious embarrassment.

On the diplomatic front, Mr Menachem Begin, the Israeli Prime Minister, appeared optimistic yesterday that withdrawal from Sinai would go ahead as scheduled on April 25. This followed receipt of a letter from President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt, delivered by Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Dr Boutros Ghali.

Israel would apparently like to get some form of written commitment from Egypt that normal relations with Israel will continue after the Sinai withdrawal, no hostile propaganda will be allowed, and no support given to the Palestine Liberation Organisation, but officials would not confirm this yesterday.

Charles Richards adds from Cairo: The U.S. Deputy Secretary of State, Mr Walter Stoessel, flew into Cairo this afternoon to try to settle last-minute disagreements between Egypt and Israel over Israel's scheduled withdrawal from Sinai in a little over a week's time. He arrived on the same aircraft from Jerusalem as the Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Dr Boutros Ghali, who has been hurriedly sent to discuss differences between the two countries, particularly over the demarcation of their border at Taba, south of Elilat.

On his return to Cairo, Dr Ghali said that he had held positive talks with Mr Stoessel, whose presence in the region reflects America's concern that all should go smoothly in this critical phase.

For his part, Mr Stoessel said, "I am pleased to have talked informally with Dr Ghali, and I am hopeful that recent talks between Egyptian and Israeli officials will result in resolution of the present difficulties. As our partner, our goals are the completion of the David process and establishment of a true and lasting peace in the region."

THE FALKLANDS CRISIS

Call for U.S. to back Britain if talks fail

BY ELINOR GOODMAN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

A GOVERNMENT Whip called yesterday for the U.S. Administration to get off the fence if diplomacy fails and actively support Britain in its dispute with Argentina.

Mr John Stradling Thomas, the Deputy Chief Whip, said that while Britain appreciated Mr Haig's effort, it must be made quite clear to President Reagan that the U.S. must fulfil its role "on the side of democracy, whatever the niceties of diplomatic demand in Central America."

It is unusual for Whips to speak in public. Their job is to listen to the views of backbenchers. Mr Stradling Thomas's speech reflects the belief of many Tory MPs that ultimately America will have to abandon its neutral role and come down positively on the side of Britain as one of its most important allies.

This view, which has also been gaining support in the U.S., was expressed at Westminster in Wednesday's emergency debate on the Falkland Islands by Mr Denis Healey, the Shadow Foreign Secretary. At that stage, the British Government's view was that as long as there was any possibility of Secretary of State Haig negotiating a diplomatic solution, it was better that America should adopt a neutral position.

But it was clear in Downing Street yesterday that if diplomacy fails, the Government would expect America to follow the example of Britain's European allies and impose trade sanctions on Argentina.

Mr Stradling Thomas's speech was one of a number from senior Conservatives yesterday aimed at bolstering support in the country for the possible use of force against Argentina. Mr Douglas Hurd, the Minister of State at the Foreign Office, who is now in effect the Deputy Foreign Secretary, repeated the Government's readiness to use force if diplomacy fails.

Every "sane person," he said, hoped diplomacy would succeed without the need for further bloodshed. But he stressed

that it was "a necessary consequence of the Argentine aggression" that if they could not be persuaded to withdraw by diplomacy, they would have to be removed by force.

Mr Hurd, who was one of only two Ministers at the Foreign Office who remained in their jobs after Lord Carrington's resignation as Foreign Secretary, also took the unusual step of hitting out at the FO's critics. In the last few weeks, he said, "many untrue and venomous things" had been said about the FO.

His own personal experience was that the foreign policy of this country was made by Ministers not officials, but it was very often discussed by Ministers collectively and that it was persistently scrutinised by MPs. "Some of the critics have an absurd idea of how the Government of this country is actually conducted," he maintained.



Medical staff board a transport flight to join the Falklands force

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CBI chief backs move by EEC

THE EEC's move to ban the import of Argentine goods has done more for its cause within Britain than any hard bargains struck in Brussels, Sir Raymond Pennick, president of the CBI, told the British chamber of commerce in France, meeting yesterday, in Paris.

"I've ever those of us who wholeheartedly support the UK's membership of the EEC wanted a compelling answer to the anti-EEC lobby, we've certainly got it now," he said.

The speed at which the Common Market had acted was an example to the free world.

Argentina approves emergency package

BY JIMMY BURNS IN BUENOS AIRES

THE ARGENTINE Government yesterday approved an emergency package of measures aimed at helping the financial market after the Falklands crisis.

The measures include a 1 per cent point reduction in the minimum reserve requirement, retroactive to April 1, to ease the severe liquidity problems of local financial institutions.

The measures will be welcomed by the financial community, but most economic analysts believe that whatever the outcome of the present dispute, Sr Roberto Alemann, the Economy Minister, would have to accept higher inflation, a lower trade surplus and the abandonment of modest growth targets.

The measures are a setback for the prestige of Sr Alemann who had earlier declared that such measures were unnecessary.

In a series of meetings with central bank and other representatives of the financial community over the past week, Sr Alemann is believed to have argued against central government intervention in the financial markets, on the grounds that their current problems were only temporary and should be allowed to work themselves out within a free market.

He is believed to have suggested that the measures might

have a negative effect on money supply and his efforts to reduce inflation, which in 1981 was over 131 per cent.

Sr Alemann denied in a TV interview on Thursday night that he was being forced to modify his economic policies and that he was under pressure to resign.

Fears of impending war with Britain and rumours that the Argentine Government might soon impose a patriotic tax to subsidise the cost of the Falklands operation, has led to many thousands of investors to withdraw their deposits over the past two weeks.

Withdrawals are believed to have amounted to over \$1bn and have led a number of institutions to the point of collapse. Interest rates have rocketed.

In a further development yesterday, the Argentine Government announced that it had banned three European consignment firms from bidding for a \$50m gas project.

The consortiums are led by Spel Capag of France, Seipem SpA of Italy and Nacap of Holland.

Sr Sergio Martini, Minister for Public Works, said that the Government was considering further sanctions against European companies, although he stressed that contracts already signed would be respected.

ISLANDERS HOPE FOR STAND-OFF

Big exodus from Port Stanley

BY ANDREW WHITLEY AND JIMMY BURNS IN BUENOS AIRES

THE PROSPECT of a military confrontation between Britain and Argentina has provoked a substantial exodus of islanders from the Falklands capital of Port Stanley, a senior banker who has just returned from the island said yesterday.

The local inhabitants fear being harmed if and when British troops try to recapture the capital. Many of them have left their homes and gone into the islands' bleak interior, which is dotted with isolated farms.

The banker said most Falklanders he had talked to were "outraged" at the Argentine military occupation. They wanted to "wake up and find themselves in the situation that existed before April 2," the date of the invasion. The overriding hope was that the Argentine troops would withdraw and the British task force turn back.

"Very few" civilians are waiting the streets of the capital and the majority of the population have stopped using their cars for fear they might

be requisitioned by the Argentine army.

Since the invasion, no foreign journalist has been allowed on the islands. Argentine journalists have been permitted to report from there, but their coverage has been sporadic and subject to military censorship. Officially, the Argentine Government has denied that the islanders are being held as hostages and has offered them free military transport out of the islands. A suggestion of compensation for those who wish to leave was made by Argentina's ambassador to the

UN.

Apart from a trickle of individuals hitching a ride on military planes to Comodoro Rivadavia on the mainland, only one substantial group of civilians has left the islands. It included Mr Dick Baker, the Deputy Governor, and Mr Ronnie Lamb, until this month the head of the Falklands' small police force.

The expulsion of these two men indicated that the new military authorities in Port Stanley are no longer prepared to work through the existing administrative machinery and are replacing local officials with their own men.

A major question mark still hangs over the status of the Falkland Islands Company, the general trading company with a monopoly on land rights and wool exports prior to the Argentine invasion. Significantly, Argentine Press reports from the islands increasingly draw attention to the political and economic hold that the company had on the colony. No

Grenada backing

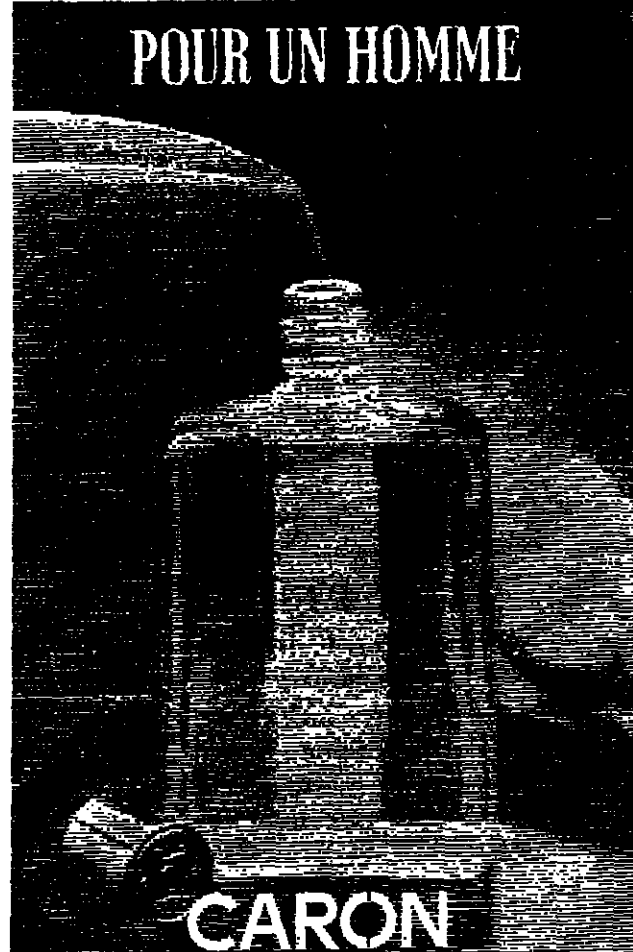
Grenada's left-wing Government supported Argentina's claim to sovereignty over the Falkland Islands, the Foreign Minister, said yesterday, Reuter reports from St. George's.

But Grenada favoured a negotiated political settlement of the Falklands issue, believing it would be foolish for Argentina and Britain to fight over the islands, he added.

Port workers' plea

Argentine maritime and port workers have recommended a general boycott of British flag-bearing ships in ports throughout the American continent in retaliation for the British Naval blockade of the Falklands, union leaders said, Reuter reports from Buenos Aires.

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OVERSEAS NEWS

UK NEWS

China preparing to build Shanghai nuclear reactor

BY TONY WALKER IN PEKING

CHINA is ready to start construction of a 300-Mw nuclear reactor near Shanghai, according to a Western scientific expert in Beijing, who is attached to a foreign diplomatic mission here. He said in an interview he had been told by officials here they had completed plans for the prototype reactor. "They feel confident they are ready to go ahead and begin to use nuclear power technology," he said. "They have implied they will obtain some components abroad," he went on.

China, which exploded its first atomic bomb in the early 1980s, has not yet made a final decision about developing a nuclear power industry. However, construction of nuclear power stations in energy-starved areas near Shanghai and Canton is being seriously considered at top levels of the Chinese leadership.

China would buy the components in Europe. Last September, a team from the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Agency visited Peking for talks with Chinese officials. No details of those discussions were released, but it is understood the two sides talked about ways to overcome barriers in the way of American companies supplying nuclear equipment to China. China is not a signatory to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, nor is it a member of the International Atomic Energy Agency, the body that polices the NPT.

The western scientific expert described the proposed "prototype reactor" near Shanghai as a "stepping stone" on the way to the development of a nuclear industry. He pointed out that a 300 MW reactor is about one third the size of the smallest installation now being constructed in the West.

ARMS SALES TO TAIWAN

U.S. wins breathing-space

BY OUR PEKING CORRESPONDENT

CHINA'S DECISION not to retaliate diplomatically over the U.S. go-ahead this week with the sale of military spares to Taiwan while negotiations between Peking and Washington are continuing has given the two sides a breathing space in their long-running dispute.

The People's Daily, the Communist Party newspaper, yesterday made it clear in a front-page commentary, however, that China's opposition to "long-term" arms sales to Taiwan is uncompromising.

President Nicolas Ceausescu of Romania hinted yesterday at the possibility of a thaw in Sino-Soviet relations, our Peking Correspondent reports. After a day of talks with Chinese leaders in Peking, he said the goal of better relations between Peking and Moscow was "reachable."

"At present the Sino-U.S. relationship is still at a critical juncture," the commentary said. "The problem of U.S. arms sales to Taiwan has not been solved. The crisis of possible retrogression in Sino-U.S. relations persists."

Although the U.S. Government has repeatedly expressed that it sets great store by the Sino-U.S. relationship, it in fact persists in its policy of long-term arms sales to Taiwan. This is of course, not to be tolerated.

One way out of the impasse is for the U.S. to agree to phase out arms sales to Taiwan, but under present circumstances it would be difficult for a Conservative U.S. Administration to give this sort of commitment. The prospect is then for Taiwan to continue to be a running sore in Sino-U.S. relations which could worsen if the issue is not cleared up over the next 12 months.

Why a Potent New Bull Market Is Now a Fact

Archaic Measurements Miss the Point of Evolutionary Thrust

While 64-year-old International Harvester may seem down and out because of high interest rates and a resolutely undetermined agricultural economy, the company is swinging to new computer-aided design and manufacturing concepts which could totally reverse its outlook.

Tough talks lie ahead on EEC entry Portugal told

BY DIANA SMITH IN LISBON

PORTUGAL and the EEC have not arrived at the decisive stage of negotiations: if Portugal wants to join by January 1, 1984, she must work very hard, as must the Community, to tie up the technical details, for it would be extremely difficult to catch up on delays that occurred between now and the end of 1982.

These dossiers can be cleared by the end of this year. If this can be done, M. Thorm said, the Ten could, at a pinch, ratify within a year. But with the unavoidable risk of election in some member-countries, M. Thorm was reluctant to give firm guarantees about time-scales.

France puts ban on all Spanish meat imports

BY OUR MADRID CORRESPONDENT

THE FRENCH Government has imposed a ban on all Spanish meat imports following the discovery of a case of foot and mouth disease in a slaughterhouse in Northern Spain.

Mellish makes up his mind to resign

By Elinor Goodman, Political Correspondent

THE Labour Party seems certain to be heading for a potentially highly divisive by-election in the south-east London constituency of Bermondsey.

Building society lending up to £1.06bn in March

BY MICHAEL CASSELL

BUILDING SOCIETY mortgage lending in March rose to its highest level for eight months, providing clear evidence of increasing activity in the private housing market.

The volume of funds being poured into the private housing market has reached a record level. This includes mortgages being granted by the banks, now running at about £350m a month.

The Building Societies Association said yesterday that net receipts in March reached only £264m against £347m in the previous month. This was largely because of investors transferring funds into the attractive 23rd issue of National Savings certificates before it was withdrawn.

BP sells Sea Conquest rig for £40m

BY MARTIN DICKSON, ENERGY CORRESPONDENT

BRITISH PETROLEUM is selling an offshore drilling rig, the Sea Conquest, to Ben Odeco, the UK drilling company, for an estimated £40m. It will then charter the vessel back for three years.

Another Sedco 700, to be handed over later this year, is being built for it at South Korea's Hyundai Yard.

The Sea Conquest, currently working in BP's North Sea Magnus Field, is capable of drilling to depths of 25,000 ft in water up to 1,200 ft and has operated mainly in the UK sector of the North Sea and offshore Ireland.

UK may get Australian Mitsubishi cars

BY JOHN GRIFFITHS

MITSUBISHI MOTORS Australia has disclosed that it is exploring ways of gaining export markets for its car production.

The disclosure follows an acknowledgment by Colt Car company of the UK that it has been assessing Australian-built cars for possible sale in Britain.

Mr Michael Orr, Colt's chairman, has let his mounting frustration be known with the agreement's restrictions on his company's activities.

Computer company purchase aids Thorn programme

Jason Crisp looks at a group's development strategy

ALTHOUGH Thorn EMI is one of the UK's most diversified groups, with interests ranging from pop music to defence electronics, it has a declared strategy pursuing two broad areas for the next decade—home entertainment and high technology engineering.

The acquisition of EMI in late 1979 and has over 50 individual companies organised into four main divisions. These are:

● Electronics, which is largely involved in military supply, with products ranging from missile fuses to specialist radar.

● General engineering, which includes Clarkson International Tools, the catering equipment companies, and a security division.

University cuts attacked

SOME BRITISH universities face a crisis "perilously close to disastrous," Dr Alwyn Williams, principal of Glasgow University, said yesterday.

Others would be "impaired greatly," at least to the end of this century," he said. This was the price "the country will have to pay for the current shoddy political thinking on the merits of higher education."

The full cost in lost expertise would become clear when the school-leavers of the 1980s became the decision-makers in the first quarter of the 21st century.

Dr Williams launched the attack at the conferment of honorary degrees at the University of Strathclyde in Glasgow, on the university's Commemoration Day.

'Remove weak head teachers'

BY MICHAEL DIXON, EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

HEAD TEACHERS incapable of preventing violence by pupils should not be left in charge of schools, said Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary for Education and Science, in Blackpool yesterday.

Schoolmasters and Union of Women Teachers. Sir Keith said he had no personal opposition to the use of corporal punishment by teachers and parents.

Cadmium health threat ruled out

DOCTORS have ruled out a serious health hazard from cadmium contamination at the Somerset village of Shipham.

Deaths at Shipham from cadmium poisoning are well below the national average, they say in a report in The Lancet.

Concern about the possibility of excessive cadmium poisoning at Shipham arose after high levels of the chemical were found in the local soil, and higher than normal levels in the teeth of village children.

Call to staff at British Airways to boost sales

By Lynton McLain

MR ROY WATTS, chief executive of British Airways, appealed to all staff yesterday to sell seats to friends and neighbours "to keep the money flowing into the airline over the next vital six months."

It was critical to the future of the whole airline that the money kept flowing in between now and October, Mr Watts said in a message to staff only a fortnight after the end of the 1981-82 financial year, when BA lost at least £200m.

"If everyone in BA sold one round trip from London to Paris, it would raise an extra £5m revenue," he said. "The next six months are going to be about the most important that BA has ever lived."

The airline had encouraging news from a number of operating sectors in recent weeks. In the first week of April total BA passenger traffic at Heathrow and Gatwick was up 6 per cent compared with the corresponding week last year. Traffic at Terminal 1 at Heathrow was up 10 per cent.

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UK NEWS

Customers sought for petroleum gas output

By Ray Dafter, Energy Editor

THE UK oil and gas industry will produce an extra 3m tonnes a year of liquefied petroleum gas—propane and butane—worth about £300m annually at current prices—by the mid-1980s, according to a senior Shell executive.

But the industry has yet to find customers for most of the extra supplies, which will come from North Sea oil and gas fields, said Dr Colin Bevers, manager of Shell International Petroleum Company's economic, logistics and project development department.

The UK is in danger of losing the full benefit of these important energy resources, he said.

Dr Bevers was speaking in St Peter's Port, Guernsey, at the annual conference of the Liquefied Petroleum Gas Industry Technical Association (UK).

He said UK North Sea fields yielded about 1.47m tonnes of liquefied petroleum gas last year, slightly more than the level of domestic demand. By 1985, LPG output should be more than 4m tonnes a year. Most of the additional output was uncommitted.

"Will it be used in the UK or will it be exported? This is the real challenge of the '80s for the UK LPG industry," Dr Bevers said.

The gas could be used in home heating, in the chemical industry, or as an environmentally friendly automotive fuel. But he feared the supplies would be lost to overseas markets.

Mr David Mitchell, managing director of Calor Gas, said he was not worried about the infrastructure.

The main problem was identifying the market with most growth potential. There were signs that the domestic cabinet heating market, which had accounted for much of the growth in bottled gas in the 1970s, had already peaked.

TV coverage of Pope's Cardiff visit threatened

By Robin Reeves, Welsh Correspondent

TELEVISION coverage of the Pope's visit to Cardiff may be affected by a union dispute over security arrangements for technical staff at HTV Wales, the local commercial television contractor.

HTV members of the technicians' union ACTT are refusing to complete application forms for the accreditation of technical staff for the visit. They say there are no guarantees that the information supplied will not be put on a computer and stored. There were reports yesterday that the dispute may also involve special payments for covering the visit.

In a statement, Mr Ron Worley, HTV's managing director, said the deadline for accreditation had passed. In the circumstances, HTV would be unable to provide joint coverage with the BBC of the Pope's visit to Cardiff.

There were attempts yesterday to resolve the dispute, but after a meeting of HTV's ACTT members a spokesman said that there was no change.

Northern Foods buys pie business

BY GARETH GRUFFITHS

FCM, THE meat-processing group, is selling its pie, flan and sausage production businesses at Caine in Wiltshire and Ipswich in Suffolk to Northern Foods for £187.5m cash, with a consequent loss of up to 550 jobs in the two factories affected.

Northern Foods expects to complete the deal by July and will transfer production to its factories in Nottingham and Dorset. Northern Foods says that between 100 and 150 jobs could be created to deal with the reallocated production. Some 200 jobs will be lost at Ipswich and 350 at Caine.

FCM says the sale is part of

its policy of transferring its resources into its main area of meat operations. Mr George Catell, FCM's group managing director, said he hoped the job losses at Ipswich would be less than announced, with the transfer of employees to other operations, but added that, within six to nine months, there would be a total run-down at Caine.

Discussions are being held with trade unions at the plants.

The two factories provide mainly own-label produce for Marks and Spencer and Sainsbury's. Less than 10 per cent of the volume of business last year was for FCM's own Harris label.

The deal provides that FCM will not compete in the pie, flan and sausage market for the next five years, although FCM retains the Harris label.

FCM has trimmed its workforce from 8,500 to about 4,500 in the past two years. It is paying the redundancy costs.

The agreement values the plant and equipment at £15m and goodwill at £375,000. FCM intends to use the proceeds to reduce the group's borrowings.

The company made a pre-tax profit of £15.1m on turnover of £250m in the six months ended October 17, 1981.

FCM says it has been

squeezed in the meat-processing areas, such as sausages, pies and flans, by Unilever and Unigate. It will now concentrate on wholesaling meat and manufacturing bacon and hams.

Northern Foods was particularly interested in the supply arrangements with Marks and Spencer and Sainsbury's. The company—which is based at Edd and is involved in dairy products, meat, and cereals—recently paid \$37m for Keystone Foods, the big U.S. processor of hamburger patties for McDonald's Corporation.

Northern Foods had pre-tax profits of £34.63m for the year ended September 30, 1981.

FCM says it has been

Avon Rubber to close factory in Wales

BY BELINDA NEWK

Avon Rubber is to close its factory at Bridgend in Wales, making 260 people redundant.

Mr Peter Fisher, the managing director, said that the Bridgend factory had been losing several hundred thousands of pounds and we cannot get it back into profit. It is due to close in July.

Mr Fisher blamed the closure on the recession in the automotive and tyre sectors, and on cheap imports, particularly in the tube business.

However, he stressed that the closure having been decided, talks would now be held on the future of the business there. He did not exclude the possibility of a management buy-out.

"The factory has some of the most modern machinery, a very competent workforce and an extremely competent management. But cheap imports are really at the nub of the decline in the industry."

Lesney Products, maker of Matchbox toys, is to close its

factory at Peterborough, Cambridgeshire, with the loss of about 200 jobs. The plant was opened in 1974.

A spokesman for the company said: "This action arises from the need of the company to reduce its fixed overhead costs as part of its planned rationalisation. The present production activities at Peterborough will be accommodated at another, existing factory in the group."

Lesney suffered serious losses in 1981, and a rationalisation

was instituted to save the company.

Jessups, the motor dealer, is to close a loss-making dealership and to put another up for sale. The moves will affect more than 100 jobs.

The group's Vauxhall-Beckford dealership at Stratford in east London is to shut and 60 staff are to be made redundant.

The Jessups dealership at Southend is to be offered for sale and the 45 staff members there have been advised.

Stockbroker suspended for misconduct

BY JOHN MOORE, CITY CORRESPONDENT

A STOCKBROKER has been suspended for three months from trading after a Stock Exchange disciplinary committee found him guilty of "gross misconduct" under the rules of the exchange.

Mr Raymond Jilins faced disciplinary action by the exchange after a partner in his firm, Russell Wood, notified the Stock Exchange authorities of certain transactions which had been carried out.

According to a notice posted

in the Stock Exchange on April 8, Mr Jilins was required to answer three charges. These alleged that within a certain period he effected a series of "inter-related transactions in the shares of a company, the intention and effect of which was to favour one client at the expense of another client or clients."

The Stock Exchange examined a number of "bear" sales—sales carried out before the shares are owned, and which are followed by a formal

purchase at a price lower than the sale price. The Stock Exchange noted that there had been a delay in the booking of the bear sales which had been carried out on behalf of a client. These sales were followed by another market operation. Under this deal, a "put-through" operation—the same number of shares of the client for whom the bear sale had been carried out were transacted with another client who held shares in the stock at the time of the sale.

"In this manner Mr Jilins was able to favour certain clients with respect to price to the detriment of other clients," the Stock Exchange has concluded.

The disciplinary committee found the charges proved.

After hearing an appeal, the Stock Exchange has decided that Mr Jilins should be suspended from trading "in any manner whatsoever" for three months from the date of its notice, April 8.

The company says its tie-up with the firm provides a "unique opportunity to expand the sale of Raleigh brand bicycles in the U.S."

Huffy, which produces a wide range of its own machines, will produce most of the Raleigh range. However, Raleigh may still supply some specialist cycles to the U.S. from its UK factories.

The company has similar licensing arrangements in a number of countries, including Mexico, South Africa, India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and New Zealand.

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Raleigh bicycles to be made in the U.S.

By Maurice Samuelson

THE RALEIGH brand of bicycle is to be manufactured under licence in the U.S. by the Huffy Corporation of Dayton, Ohio, the biggest maker and distributor of bicycles in the U.S.

TI Raleigh Industries, which dominates the British cycle industry, says the move is consistent with its strategy of concentrating its marketing and manufacturing resources in developing its base in UK and European markets.

Mr Chris Handley, export sales director, said yesterday that in the past, Raleigh had tried to penetrate the market with machines made in Canada and other countries. However, U.S. sales had declined from the peak reached about 10 years ago and Raleigh's direct exports to the U.S. had been hit particularly hard by the strength of sterling.

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THE WEEK IN THE MARKETS

Closing all water-tight doors

In the four days of post-holiday trading, shuffling diplomacy was not enough to quell the markets' nervousness. A week ago, when the institutions were still prepared to test their teeth and treat the Falklands as a buying opportunity, equities came surprisingly close to shrugging off the political uncertainty. That ground has now been ceded all over again, although late yesterday there were signs of a modest revival in sentiment.

There were larger sellers this week than last—this being the moment chosen to reorganise some investment trusts—and sizeable lines of stock had to be placed. Trading was otherwise thin.

Since the crisis began, the stress upon sterling has made for almost constant upward pressure on interest rates. Even at the longer end, gilt-edged

yields have risen by almost three-quarters of a point since the market peaked on March 23. At the other extreme, the cautious wish of money market operators to hold the most liquid assets actually had the perverse effect of driving down very short rates—although that was eventually reversed by a severe market shortage. Even so, it was a fair demonstration of hatch-baiting.

Scottish slide

Full year figures from Bank of Scotland this week did nothing to stem the downward slide in the share price. At the back end of 1981 competing bids for Royal Bank of Scotland spilled over into speculation that Bank of Scotland too would soon lose its independence. The shares were chased up as high as 445p. In slamming the door shut on the bids for Royal Bank of

LONDON ONLOOKER

the Monopolies Commissions also doused the flames that fanned the Bank of Scotland's price. The shares started to fall back and before this week's preliminary announcement they were down to 423p.

Yet even though bid hopes had evaporated, the price was still supported by City expectations that profits for the year to February would be somewhere between £51m and £53m.

When the bank reported a 23 per cent profit advance for the half year stage it warned that it might be difficult to maintain that level of growth.

With a firm downturn in the second half full year profits

were less than 10 per cent up at £47.2m and the 25 per cent rise in the interim dividend had to be watered down to a 20 per cent gain for the year as a whole. The shares fell further as the figures were digested.

The retail banking operations are blamed for the second half setback. The bank had to sit back and watch its margins being squeezed as lending expanded but branch deposit levels started to decline.

Before the speculative rise last year Bank of Scotland Shares tended to yield half a percentage point over the sector norm. Even after the shake out since Christmas, which has wiped a quarter off the market capitalisation, the yield is still below average—a rating that this week's figures do little to justify.

Borax blip

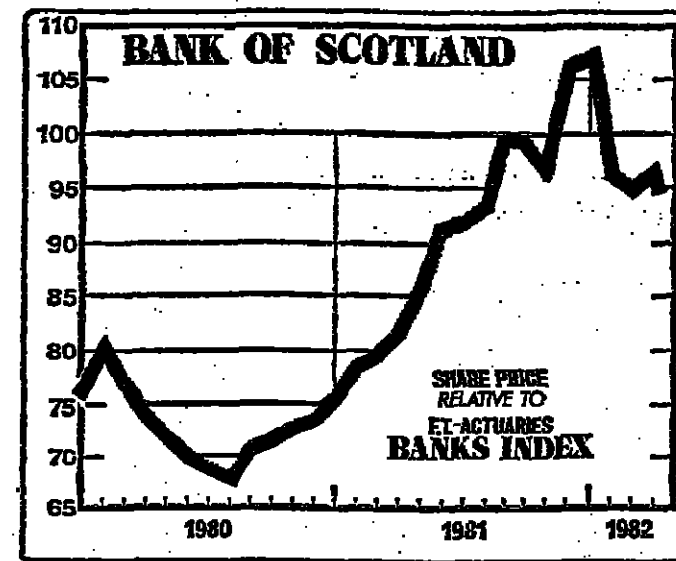
Sodium perborate might not mean much to most people, but to Rio Tinto-Zinc it meant more than half of its net income in what was otherwise a rather grim year.

All RTZ's base metal operations were much less profitable in 1981. The Australian group, CRA, led the pack with net profits plummeting to about a tenth of their 1980 level. But the zippy performance of Borax, its sodium perborate company, allowed RTZ to hold its net income decline to just 34 per cent, showing £102.3m against £155.4m in 1980.

Sodium perborate, minded primarily out of the California desert, is the basis for a host of products ranging from soap powders to glass fibre. Borax recently increased its plant capacity and has found that its markets are apparently recession-proof. The company doubts whether its 50 per cent profit increase is repeatable but expects profitability to be maintained.

RTZ now has to hope for some improvement in metal prices—a £10 increase in copper on the London Metal Exchange would send £1m straight through to net income. In the meantime, RTZ is likely to benefit by some £15m to £17m after financing costs on the Ward/Tunnel takeovers. The double acquisition should also allow RTZ to relieve £30m of previously unrelieved ACT.

Although the cement acquisi-



tions have pushed up capital gearing to nearly 40 per cent, the balance sheet is not under strain. The maintained dividend was covered 2.6 times. The shares went up a bit on Friday and at 423p, the yield is about 5.5 per cent.

Empire conundrum

Close scrutiny by the Office of Fair Trading is almost inevitable if, as the City believes, Great Universal Stores is preparing a bid for catalogue mail order group, Empire Stores (Bradford).

The two sides are already in talks and Empire shares were suspended on Wednesday morning at 92p. Both companies spoke vaguely of forming closer relationships and the discussions continue.

Any relationship, however, would only enhance GUS's already formidable power in the mail order sector. Through catalogues like those of Kays, John GUS and Great Universal GUS claims a 40 per cent share of the market. Empire probably controls a further 6 per cent so a conventional bid may well pose questions for the Government's competition policy.

The stock market, on the other hand, believes that GUS has been asked by Empire to mount a rescue. Harold Bowman, joint managing director of GUS, let a tiny shaft of light into the nature of the discussions when he alluded to Empire's request for help against a background of a very difficult market for mail order goods.

Empire revealed the extent of recent pressure last autumn when, in the wake of a 6 per

cent fall in sales volume, its six months profits crashed from £2.07m to £312,000 before tax. Its attempts to arrest the volume slide included a drive to recruit new agents to the selling team but, as City analysts were pointing out during the week, recruitment usually brings with it an increase in bad debt exposure.

Brokers' forecasts for the full year have recently been pitched in the £2m to £2.5m bracket but the outlook could very well have changed, and perhaps the cash position is more relevant than the profit outcome.

Builders' blocks

Building contractors were the strongest sector of the stock market in 1981, outperforming the All-Share Index by nearly a quarter, although the profits which contractors were able to report were often something less than dynamic. In recent weeks, stockbrokers who study the building industry have been looking for an upturn in the house-building cycle, and re-directing investors towards housebuilders themselves and the manufacturers of such items as bricks, tiles and plaster-board.

The impression that things might be starting to move was strengthened by this week's flurry of deals among building materials companies.

Taylor Woodrow's pre-tax profits for the year ended up at £24.9m compared with £24.8m. Profits in UK contracting were more or less steady, and although there was a deterioration in UK house-building, that was offset by a strong performance in North America.

The taxman cometh

NEW YORK

RICHARD LAMBERT

The main excitement in Wall Street this week lay in the first quarter earnings statement from IBM, the giant computer manufacturer. Share prices in general went nowhere, and there were good excuses for doing nothing. The budget discussions drolled on in Washington with no sign of an imminent breakthrough.

A growing stream of companies had a grim story to tell about trading in the first quarter of this year, and Aki International became the first major company to go under in the present recession. A day later it was followed by another office products company, Saxon Industries.

Besides, most Americans had more pressing things to think about than share prices this week. Thursday was the deadline for filing 1981 tax returns—an event which not only caused furrowed brows across the nation, but which also put a squeeze on the money markets as the Treasury's collection of income taxes drained out bank reserves.

The key federal funds rate edged higher, and heads were being kept well down in the bond market ahead of the expected technical surge in the money supply figures.

So thank goodness for IBM. Analysts had been snoring down their forecasts for several months before the first quarterly report, which arrived on Wednesday. Their worries included the strength of the dollar, which has an adverse effect on the earnings figures, and the possible impact of a major reorganisation in IBM's marketing structure.

The three U.S. divisions that marketed larger computers, smaller computers and office products have been consolidated into two divisions, and a single marketing team can now supply all of a customer's product needs.

That all sounds very nice on paper, but how much was it going to cost? The general expectation was that earnings per share for the first three months would slip from \$1.25 to \$1.20 or less. In the event, the company came in with \$1.30, sparking a lot of activity and a useful rise in the share price.

The hope now is that earnings will accelerate at current rates. The impact of currency movements could be less painful over the rest of the year, and shipments of the powerful 3081 model series should be picking up.

Analysts Sandy Garrett of Paine Webber thinks earnings in the third quarter (a particularly dull period last time) could rise by over a third. The consensus view is that earnings for the year as a whole will rise from \$5.63 to nearly \$7 per share.

The reason for giving a little thought to IBM is this. The equity market as a whole still looks frail. The Dow Jones industrial average has rallied by more than 40 points from last month's low, but the general direction is still far from clear.

The mood on Wall Street seems to be that if there is a case for buying anything, it probably points to bonds—on the general view that if Uncle Sam is prepared to offer you 13.5 per cent for 30 years, then it might just be worth taking in these uncertain times.

On the equity front, there is increasing recognition of the attractions of a strong balance sheet. That brings us back to IBM, with its immense financial strength and sound earnings prospects. The prospective p/e is about 9.5 and the yield is over 5 per cent.

Elsewhere, all the signs are that business activity remains at a low ebb. U.S. industrial output fell by 0.8 per cent in March, and conditions in a number of basic industries are still deteriorating. Aluminum Company of America reported that it had been running at 66 per cent of rated capacity in the U.S. this year. It expects to continue destocking through 1982. Followers of the steel industry are beginning to fear that the second quarter could be just as grim as the first, when shipment fell by a quarter.

In the words of Treasury Secretary Donald Regan, who earlier this year was forecasting a roaring recovery in the late spring, "the economy is dead in the water."

MONDAY 841.32 -1.62
TUESDAY 841.04 -0.28
WEDNESDAY 838.09 -2.95
THURSDAY 839.61 +1.52

MARKET HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEEK

	Price	Change	1981	1982	
	y'day	on week	High	Low	
F.T. Ind. Ord. Index	550.7	-9.6	579.8	518.1	Small selling in unwilling markets
Aberthaw Cement	344	+19	375	310	Better-than-expected results
Atkins Bros. (Hosiery)	71	+4	73	54	Press comment
Bank of Scotland	395	-28	518	395	Disappointing results
Canvax	48	+8	49	37	Strong profits recovery
Canwoods	280	-17	300	192	Agreed merger with Redland
Channel Tunnel	95	-35	230	85	Adverse comment
Empire Stores	921	+10	92	68	Talks with GUS
Global Nat. Resources	705	-125	835	435	Profit-taking
GUS A	478	-17	525	430	Talks with Empire Stores
Hanson Trust	146	-14	163	137	Profit-taking
Hawker Siddeley	296	-10	350	290	Results due next Wednesday
Lloyds Bank	413	-13	500	408	Concern about Argentine assets
LASMO	312	-33	423	260	Canwoods/Redland merger
Lyle Shipping	240	-20	322	240	Chairman's bearish statement
MEPC	200	-13	244	200	Fears of higher interest rates
Pearl Assurance	382	-24	416	370	Disappointing annual results
Pentlow	85	+15	85	48	Acquisition of property company
Shell Transport	378	-16	400	334	Lack of interest

† Price at suspension.

BUILDING SOCIETY RATES

	Deposit rate	Share accounts	Sub'pn shares	*Term shares
	%	%	%	%
Abbey National	8.50	8.75	10.00	10.75 6 years sixty plus. 10.25 1 year high option. 9.25-10.75 1-5 years open bondshares
Ald to Thrift	9.55	9.80	—	—
Alliance	8.50	8.75	10.00	10.75 5 y., 10.25 4 y., 10.25 £500 min. 2 m. not. or £100-60 d. int. pen.
Anglia	8.50	8.75	10.00	11.00 6 yrs., 9.75 1 mth. not. int. loss
Bradford and Bingley	8.25	8.75	10.00	9.75 1 month's notice
Bridgewater	8.50	8.75	10.25	10.75 5 yrs., 9.85 21 yrs.
Bristol Economic	8.50	8.75	10.00	9.50 3 months' notice and 9.75 on balance of £10,000 and over. Escalator shs. 9.25-10.75 (1-5 y.)
Britannia	8.50	8.75	10.00	10.25 4 yrs., 10.00 5 months' notice
Burnley	18.50	8.75	10.00	10.75 5 yrs., 3 mth. not. 9.75 1 m. not.
Cardiff	8.50	19.25	10.25	9.50 on bal. £3,000-10,000; £ to £3,000
Cardiff	—	10.00	—	£10,000 and over
Catholic	10.00	9.00	10.00	10.00 deposits at 5 mths' notice. 9.25 on share balances of £5,001+
Chelsea	8.50	8.75	10.00	11.00 3 yrs.—80 dys' not. on amt. wdn.
Cheltenham and Gloucester	8.50	8.75	10.00	—
Cheltenham and Gloucester	—	8.75	—	Gold Account. Savings of £1,000 or more (8.75 otherwise)
Citizens Regency	—	10.00	11.25	12.00 5 yrs., 11.05 3 mths' notice a/c, 11.30 6 mths' notice a/c
City of London (The)	8.75	9.10	10.25	10.25 Capital City shs. 4 mths' notice
Covey's Economic	8.50	8.75	10.25	10.50 4 yrs., 10.25 3 yrs., 10.00 3 mths.
Derbyshire	8.50	8.75	10.00	9.25-9.85 (3 months' notice)
Esling and Acton	8.50	9.25	—	9.80 2 yrs., £2,000 min.
Gateway	8.50	8.75	10.00	10.75 5 yrs., 10.25 4 yrs., 9.75 3 yrs.
Gateway	—	9.75	—	Plus a/c £500 min. int. + yearly
Greenwich	—	8.85	10.10	10.85 5 yrs., 10.10 3 months' notice
Guardian	8.50	9.00	—	10.75 6 mths., 10.25 3 mth., £1,000 min.
Halifax	8.50	8.75	10.00	10.75 5 yrs., 3 mths' wdl. notice
Heart of England	8.50	8.75	10.00	— 3 mths' notice 9.75 5 yrs. 10.75
Hearts of Oak and Enfield	8.50	9.00	10.50	10.75 5 yrs., 10.25 6 mth., 10.00 4 mth.
Hendon	9.00	9.75	—	10.50 6 mths., 10.25 3 mths.
Lambeth	8.50	9.00	10.50	11.00 5 yrs., 10.75 6 months' notice
Lamington Spa	8.50	8.85	11.93	10.35 1 year
Leeds and Holbeck	8.50	8.75	10.50	10.75 5 yrs., 9.75 1 mth. int. penalty.
Leeds Permanent	8.50	8.75	10.00	10.75 3 yrs., E.I. a/c £500 min. 9.75
Leicester	8.50	8.75	10.00	10.75 5 yrs., 10.25 4 yrs., 9.75 3 yrs.
Liverpool	9.50	9.75	11.05	11.75 5 yrs., 10.80 1 mth. int. penalty.
London Grosvenor	9.50	10.25	12.00	10.75 3 months' notice
Morriston	9.30	9.80	—	—
National Counties	8.75	9.05	10.05	9.75 35 days' notice min. dep. £500, 10.15 6 mths. min. dep. £500
Nationwide	8.50	8.75	10.00	10.75 5 yrs., £500 min. 90 days' notice. Bonus a/c 9.75 £1,000 min., 28 days' notice
Newcastle	8.50	8.75	10.00	10.75 4 yrs., 9.75 3 mths' notice, or on demand 28 days' int. penalty
New Cross	9.50	9.75	—	9.75-10.50 on share acct., depending on min. balance over 6 months
Northern Rock	8.50	8.75	10.00	10.75 5 yrs., 10.25 4 yrs., 9.75 3 yrs.
Norwich	9.50	8.75	11.25	10.75 3 yrs., 10.50 2 yrs.
Paddington	9.25	10.25	11.75	11.25 Loss 1 month int. on sums wdn.
Peckham Mutual	8.50	8.50	—	10.00 2 y., 10.5 3 y., 11.0 4 y., 9.75 Bus.
Portsmouth	8.85	9.05	10.55	11.10 (5 yrs.) to 10.50 (8 mths.)
Property Owners	9.75	10.25	11.75	11.75 4 yrs., 11.75 6 mth., 11.05 3 mth.
Provincial	8.50	8.75	10.00	10.75 3 yrs., 9.75 1 month
Skipiton	8.50	8.75	10.00	9.85-10.00 28 days' interest penalty.
Sussex County	8.75	9.00	11.25	10.00 instant withdrawal option
Sussex Mutual	8.75	9.25	10.75	9.50-10.75 all with special options
Town and Country	8.50	8.75	10.00	11.00 5 yr., 10.75 3 yr. 60 d. wdl. not., 10.2 mth. not./28 days' int. loss
Wessex	7.75	9.80	—	—
Woolwich	8.50	8.75	10.00	10.75 90 days (int. loss), 9.75 intmed. access (int. loss) or 28 dys' not.
Yorkshire	8.50	8.75	10.00	10.25 5 yrs., 10.25 4 yrs., 9.75 3 yrs., 9.25 2 yrs., 10.00 Golden key 28 days' penalty interest

* Rates normally variable in line with changes to ordinary share rates. † From May 1. All these rates are after basic rate tax liability has been settled on behalf of the investor.

Copper ready to head the recovery

SOME of the metal prices have been picking up a little lost ground, notably gold and copper, but not enough to cut much ice in share markets. Reflecting the Falkland Islands crisis to a large extent, gold has recovered to the levels of two months ago while copper has done rather better.

Against the background of present political uncertainties, there is no knowing what will happen next to the gold price. But politics are not the major factor in copper and there are

deficits, will be needed to get the economy moving again.

What will happen remains to be seen, but the more acute the official awareness of a problem, the better are the chances of solving it. For this and other reasons, an optimistic view is taken by Mr J. Allen Overton, president of the American Mining Congress.

A pick-up in copper prices would make a good deal of difference to Rio Tinto-Zinc this year. Each rise of £10 per tonne in the metal price adds about £1m to the UK-based natural resource group's earnings. It cuts both ways, of course, and the fall in copper coupled with the slump in 1981 profits of the Australian CRA hit the UK parent hard last year.

But borax soothed the pain, a highly versatile material which finds its way into a bewildering variety of applications in glass, fibreglass, vitreous enamels, ceramic glazes, detergents, fertilisers, fire retardants, chemical processes, metallurgical fluxes and many other industrial manufactures.

Thanks to a record year by the U.S. RTZ Borax, earnings for 1981 of RTZ announced this week came out at £102.3m (about half from borax) compared with £155.4m in 1980 and the 16p dividend has been maintained. Considering the recessionary background this is a very creditable performance.

RTZ Borax cannot be expected to do so well in the current year and with metal prices subdued, RTZ's earnings are still declining. It would not take much of an upturn to reverse this trend, however, and with hopes that the U.S. economy will revive towards the year-end shares of RTZ at 424p to yield 5.5 per cent on the 2.6 times covered dividend seem to be worth picking up again.

Following RTZ's recent acquisition of the Thomas W. Ward and Tunnel Holdings cement producers, Consolidated Gold Fields has announced this week that its construction materials subsidiary, Amey Roadstone Corporation has paid

£37.6m for the aggregates business of Blue Circle Industries.

The deal is thought to raise ARC's share of the UK dry aggregates market to about 15 per cent from 12 per cent. Meanwhile, ARC, which has raised its turnover from under £30m in the late 1960s to over £425m, earns more than a quarter of its profits from outside the UK and clearly hopes to make the most of the construction catch-up when economic recovery comes.

The Bermuda-registered Hemerdon Mining and Smelting has decided that, economic recovery or not, it wants to pull out of its half share in the Hemerdon Ball tungsten and tin venture in Devon where it is partnered with America's Amax.

This week agreement has

been reached whereby the Royal Dutch Shell group's Billiton is to pay H&M \$1m for an option to buy the Hemerdon stake for \$14m. The total of \$15m equals about 155p per share of H&M, currently quoted at around 85p.

Mr Bud Schwarzwalder, chairman of H&M, has said that the net proceeds of the sale will be repaid to shareholders, but the main condition to be met before Billiton exercises the option will be the granting of planning consent for the proposed mine at Hemerdon Ball.

There seems little doubt that the necessary approval will be given, but in all, it could take until 1984 or so before shareholders receive their money. However, the purchase price will be inflation-proofed in line

with the U.S. consumer price index.

If H&M had decided to stay with its investment, there would have been an even longer wait for any return on shareholders' funds—quite apart from any new funds to be raised—because the proposed mine is not expected to reach the production stage before 1985.

While welcoming a new and more powerful partner at Hemerdon Ball, Amax has other more pressing matters on its mind. Of particular concern must be the weakness in the market for the steel industry metal molybdenum. As the world's biggest producer of molybdenum, Amax is having to further reduce its output to about 45 per cent of capacity. The group could now be close to making quarterly losses.



Britannia Arrow Holdings PLC

Pre-tax profits rise by 45%

Summary of Results: Year to 31st December, 1981

Pre-tax profits up 45% to £4.2m (1980 £2.9m)

Total ordinary dividend increased 50% to 1.5p net (1980 1.0p net)

Earnings per share up 28% to 4.03p (1980 3.16p)

The Rt. Hon. Geoffrey Rippon Q.C., M.P. makes the following points in his Chairman's Statement:—

Fund management division — record sales and profits with over £500m under management.

Sale of Mercantile House Holdings plc stake produced profit of £5.5m available for reinvestment.

Acquisition of King & Shaxson Fund Managers Ltd in 1982 brought £30m under management.

Group planning to extend into further areas of financial services in 1982.

Annual General Meeting at the Carpenters Hall, 1, Throgmorton Avenue, London, E.C.2, on Thursday, 13th May, 1982 at 12 noon.

Copies of the Annual Report and information concerning the activities of the Group which include a wide range of unit trusts and investment management services can be obtained from The Secretary, Britannia Arrow Holdings PLC, Salisbury House, 31 Finsbury Circus, London EC2M 5QL.

Deposits of £1,000-£50,000 accepted for fixed terms of 3-10 years. Interest paid gross, half-yearly. Rates for deposits received not later than 10.10.81 are fixed for the terms shown:

Terms (years)	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Interest %	13 1/4	13 1						

YOUR SAVINGS AND INVESTMENTS = 1

Lack of planning may mean you will still suffer from Capital Transfer Tax: Rosemary Burr looks at escape routes

The five golden rules

COMMENTATORS MAY have already given the last rites to capital transfer tax but many people, partly through lack of planning, find they can still get clobbered for a hefty payment of this tax. There are five relatively easy ways of cutting your CTT bill which can help soften the blow considerably.

Capital Transfer Tax is a tax on the transfer of anything of value between two people with the exception of husband and wife. If the UK is your home-land for tax purposes, then CTT applies to the transfer of all your assets throughout the world. Anyone not domiciled in the UK is still subject to CTT on the transfer of UK assets, with the exception of foreign currency bank accounts.

Topping up your CTT bill is complicated, as it is frequently a matter for your professional advisers and the Inland Revenue to decide, on the basis of case histories, the exact value of the item you transferred. The tax is levied on the amount your estate is reduced by the transaction rather than the value of the item to the recipient.

For example, if you hold 51 per cent of a private company and transfer 5 per cent of your holding, then the reduction in your estate is more than the value of a mere 5 per cent holding. For by disposing of this 5 per cent you lose a controlling interest in the company and the value of the remaining shares is greatly cut.

Usually CTT is paid by the person making the transfer. However, for certain assets if the recipient of the gift agrees to pay the tax on transfers made during the donor's lifetime, then the tax bill may in many instances be spread over eight years without any extra interest charge provided the instalments are paid regularly. This applies to land and buildings, unquoted shares and unincorporated businesses.

There are two different scales of CTT depending on the time of the transfer. Gifts made during the donor's life are subject to lower rates than transfers at death or 36 months prior to death.

The CTT on lifetime transfers varies from 15 per cent to 50 per cent. In the case of gifts made at death, the rates start at 30 per cent and rise to 75 per cent.

If you are calculating the CTT liability on transfers made during a lifetime then you have to pay CTT not only on the value of the asset transferred but also on the CTT bill itself, which can substantially inflate the effective rate of tax. This does not happen in the case of gifts at death or where the recipient pays the tax.

So how can you reduce the burden of CTT?

● Make use of your exemptions. Every two years you may transfer £10,000 of assets free of tax. In addition, you can give goods worth up to £250 to a single donee free. These exemptions apply to both husband and wife.

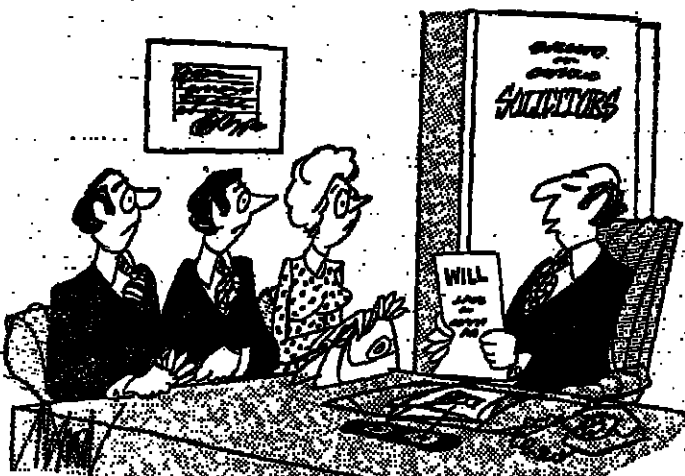
Over and above these annual exemptions, the first £55,000 transferred is at nil rate of CTT, i.e. free. The £55,000 applies to the year 1981/82 but the rate bands are to be index linked. Once cumulative transfers exceed this figure, the normal rates are charged.

However, when 10 years have elapsed since a slice of the £55,000 nil rate band has been used, then a nil rate slice is reinstated. This means up to £55,000 can be given free every 10 years. It obviously makes sense to do this as early and as often as feasible.

● Making lifetime gifts. The rate of tax for lifetime transfers is much lower than for transfers at death. For instance it is half the death rate for transfers of up to £200,000, falling to two-thirds for transfers over £200,000.

For example, if a husband and wife each gift to their children say £45,000 in excess of the amounts covered by their annual exemptions and their £55,000 nil rate band, the total CTT bill would be just under £15,000. Don't forget that if suitable assets are gifted, and the children pay the tax, this will cost them just under £2,000 a year for eight years. The parents could fund this liability by making gifts within their annual CTT exemptions.

● Consider taking out life insurance. If a donor pays premiums under a qualifying life insurance policy on his life and



"To cut CTT I have given £50,000 to my dog Spot, £50,000 to my cat Topsy and to my goldfish Jaws"

HOW TO CUT YOUR CTT BILL

	Husband	Wife	Combined
A Present estates—left to surviving spouse, then to children. CTT assuming no action taken (B)	500	100	600
B Husband transfers to wife to equalise estate	300	300	600
C Each spouse makes maximum gifts to children over 11 years to maximise annual exemption and nil rating	(143)	(143)	(286)
D Each makes additional gifts to children chargeable at lower lifetime rates	(45)	(45)	(90)
E Balance of estate which under new will each spouse leaves to children CTT on additional lifetime gifts	112	112	224
F CTT on balance of estate	44	44	88
G Total CTT bill	51	51	102
H Less amount from maturity of joint life and survivor policy of £50,000			50
I Net CTT bill			52

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● Consider taking out life insurance. If a donor pays premiums under a qualifying life insurance policy on his life and

then names his children as beneficiary, the children will get the proceeds free of all taxes including CTT. In addition, the policyholder gets 15 per cent tax relief on the gross premiums paid. This means that for every £85 paid in, the insurance company will invest £100. There is a ceiling on this tax relief of one-sixth of total income or £1,500 whichever is higher.

A particular form of policy worth considering is a joint life and survivor policy which pays out after the death of both husband and wife. There is potentially a longer build-up of premiums than under a policy on the man's life alone, as women traditionally outlive their mates. This means a larger sum may be accumulated than in the case of a life policy on the husband alone. It also produces the money when the CTT bill is usually highest, namely on second death.

Of course you have to take into account the conservative nature of an insurance company's investment policy but even so the saving in terms of tax relief and avoiding CTT makes some life insurance a practical proposition for people with children.

● Equalising your estate. Provided your marriage is secure it makes sense to divide the estate equally between you and your wife as you get older. This is because each can make use of

the lower bands of CTT and it avoids one of the couple being catapulted into the higher bands.

Take the case of a husband with assets of £400,000 who dies leaving everything to his wife. She gets the estate free of CTT but when she in turn dies leaving the estate to the children they will pay £177,500.

The CTT bill could be cut by about a third if the husband had originally left half his money to the children and half to his wife. The CTT bill on each death would then be £80,000 making a total of £160,000.

If the husband dies first leaving his assets to his wife, his will can be effectively rewritten under a deed of family arrangement executed within two years of his death, so that some of his assets can pass to the children in order to reduce the CTT bill. Of course, if the wife dies first and all the assets are in the husband's name then nothing can be done to reduce the CTT burden.

● Check whether your assets give rise to reliefs. This is a rather complex area but broadly speaking certain assets have their value reduced before CTT is charged. For example in many cases business assets including farmland and woodlands, qualify for a 50 per cent reduction, as does a controlling interest in a trading company. Minority interests in unquoted trading companies and let agricultural land qualify for a 20 per cent reduction in value.

These are five easy ways to cut your CTT bill. The important thing is not to forget about CTT but take advantage of the exemptions as you go along. Under present rules a husband and wife could transfer £170,000 to two children tax free over 10 years and another £116,000 in the 11th year, simply by using their exemptions alone. If you opt to invest in one of the assets which qualifies for relief do make sure you can justify the decision on investment grounds alone.

So what effect these moves can have in practice, take the case of the Cooks who have two children. The Cooks' estate is worth £600,000. All but £100,000 of the family's assets are in Mr Cook's name as the table shows. If he dies and leaves the estate to his wife, who in turn leaves it to the children, then the CTT bill will amount to nearly half the value of the estate, i.e. £298,000.

By taking four of the simple steps described, Mr Cook can reduce the CTT bill on his estate to £52,000. First, he can transfer assets to his wife. Second, both spouses can make the maximum gifts over 11 years to children to take full advantage of annual exemptions and nil rating.

Third, they can make additional lifetime gifts to the children. Fourth, they can take out a joint life and survivor policy. The table shows this will cut the CTT bill to £102,000 and give the children a sum of £50,000 free of CTT with which to pay the taxman.

yourself (or your brother, your parents and yourself) and after your parents' deaths for your own and your brother's benefit. The form in brackets is correct the respective quarter shares should have been included in your parents' estates.

CGT after the Budget

Press comment seems to differ so could you let me know how much CGT would be paid under the Budget proposals in each of the following examples: (1) £5,000 gains made in '81-'82; (2) £5,000 gains made in April '82, 15 per cent inflation since April '81; (3) £5,000 gains made on April 7 '82, 10 per cent inflation since April 6 '82. In all cases stock held for a year and a day.

The complex and arbitrary new indexation and identification rules are set out in clauses 71

The ups and downs of investment

SO FAR this month three more currency funds have been introduced. The timing could leave a little to be desired in view of the weakness of sterling in the face of the Falklands crisis. But this only goes to underline the volatile nature of exchange rates. It is their increasing volatility in recent years that has stimulated interest in currency itself as an investment and encouraged the growth in the number of currency funds.

Such funds fall into two categories: the fully professionally managed and the "self-switching" variety. This week the merchant bank Brown Shipley put its own skills on the line with a Jersey-based open-ended investment company, called Brown Shipley International Currency Fund. This contrasts with other self-switching funds namely the LJ & S fund from bankers Leopold Joseph and Son in conjunction with Stewart Fund Managers, and the re-organised Central Assets, formerly a more conventional investment company.

All three seek to achieve income and capital growth from investment in major foreign

currency bank deposits, monetary instruments and similar assets, at returns normally available only to large depositors.

Brown Shipley is to make an initial offer on April 28 of 2.5m 1p participating redeemable preference shares quoted in London at £1.05 each. The mini-

CURRENCY FUNDS

CHRISTOPHER CAMERON-JONES

stake has been kept low at £1,050 to appeal to the smaller investor. The annual yield in the first year on the offer price is expected to be around 8 per cent but the emphasis will be on capital growth.

The share price includes 5p administrative charge. In addition there will be a 0.75p annual administration fee charged monthly and a 0.125 per cent per annum custodian fee, charged quarterly. Ideally, holdings should be for at least a year to recoup the high cost of entry.

Because of the weakness of sterling the fund will probably be more heavily invested than usual in sterling. For example, on the basis of this week's exchange rates the fund might have been spread this way: 40 per cent in sterling; 10 to 15 per cent in Swiss francs; 20 to 25 per cent in Deutsche Marks; 15 per cent in Dutch guilders; and 10 per cent in Japanese yen.

For a minimum of £1,000 it is possible to subscribe for redeemable participating shares of 1 U.S. cent in the LJ & S fund. These comprise income shares for all investors and capital shares for the corporate and non-resident investors, for which a Stock Exchange quotation will be sought at a later date.

The choice of currencies, currently covering Deutsche Marks, French francs, sterling, Swiss francs and U.S. dollars, is left to the investor who may switch at will. Conversion can be through written or telexed instruction.

The only charge is a 0.75 per cent annual management fee, but a fully managed service is available to large investors at extra cost.

Elsewhere the former £20m Central Assets has been re-organised as a multi-currency fund covering the same five major currencies plus, for the really large investor, Special Drawing Rights. The minimum stake is £10,000 or £50,000 SDRs and is in the form of capital shares only which are quoted in London. The use of "inscribed" shares, whereby holders' names are kept on a register and no share certificates are issued, allows switching to be done simply by telex or telephone.

The annual management fee for the sterling fund is 0.5 per cent and 0.75 per cent for other funds. In addition there is a 0.1 per cent advisory fee, and some custodian charges are incurred.

At present a UK investor would be liable to income tax on the income from these funds and Capital Gains Tax when selling the shares but not when switching. But the Inland Revenue may eventually decide to challenge the CGT aspect of currency funds in the courts, on the view that switching profits could be liable to income tax.

Role of the wife recognised

A SCHEME for insuring housewives against death or prolonged illness appeared on the market this week from the insurance brokers, Reed Stephens.

New insurance schemes appear regularly on the market, but one designed especially for women is rare and for housewives rarer still. Yet the present-day role of the wife in the overall finances of the family is important.

Not only does the modern housewife carry out normal household duties. But as a working mother, the family rely on her earnings, not only for clothes and holidays, but to pay part of the mortgage.

Should she die or become seriously disabled, there is a gap in the family income. Even if the wife does not work, the cost of hiring outside help for basic household duties can amount to a considerable sum.

The general attitude of the typical family to this eventuality is usually one of "it cannot happen to us." Statistics issued by the Department of Health and Social Security re-veal that employed women show, however, that it does happen. Taking the year to May 1980, 50,000 employed women between ages 20 and 65 died in the period and 107,000 were off sick for at least six months. Of this latter figure 45,000 had been ill for at least three years.

This highlights the need to insure the wife, as well as the husband, against death or prolonged sickness. When tragedy strikes, the family invariably rallies round for a time, but cannot be expected to shoulder additional burdens for long periods. The need for cash sums and income payments on death or prolonged disablement are obvious.

Yet in spite of this need, life companies have done little to meet it and never in one package. All life companies will offer contracts for any healthy woman, paying out lump sums on death, and a few issue contracts to housewives paying income for prolonged illness. But no thought has been given to designing a contract to cover both needs.

The Reed Stephens Family Maintenance Plan, underwritten by Zurich Life, does this for a comparatively low-cost premium. The benefits up to age 60 in the package are fixed at:

- £10,000 on death.
- £10,000 on total and permanent disablement.
- £30 a week on temporary disablement.

There is little doubt that this plan is a step forward in life and sickness provision for ordinary, as distinct from professional, women. It is a cautious step.

The lump sum payments are realistic, but the income payments are far too low for current conditions, and are not index-linked—essential in these inflationary times.

The plan has concentrated on simplicity and low premiums.

If it would, however, be more useful if housewives were offered a scale of benefits for the income payments—with appropriate premiums.

Eric Short

Bringing out the gold bugs

THERE IS nothing like international tension to bring out the gold-bugs. The imposition this month of VAT on gold coins is unlikely to put off those determined to invest in the metal.

Already one small bullion dealer, Shaw Cavendish in Chester, is advertising "British gold sovereigns free of VAT" in contrast to the major City-based bullion houses which have been gradually withdrawing from the retail market. Shaw Cavendish says it will supply "anything from one coin upwards."

So how does Shaw Cavendish plan to get round the VAT imposition? Walter Shaw, a director, explains: "The coins are held abroad on behalf of

the customer. At the moment there is a choice of Switzerland or the Channel Islands."

What proof does the investor have of the transaction? Shaw says each customer will be sent a "letter-cum-certificate" of deposit confirming that the arrangement has been carried out on his behalf. At the moment there is no extra charge for storing the coins overseas.

The Customs and Excise appears unmoved by this arrangement. "It is merely an overseas transaction. There is no VAT if coins are not bought in Britain," it says.

Shaw Cavendish is a private company with unlimited liability which is wholly owned by the Shaw family. "We are

one of a rare breed," says Shaw. The company has been trading for about 40 years, and Shaw says his customers include "someone who is playing for England at cricket, and the directors of some of the biggest banks in the country."

The Shaws, who hailed from the Wirral, made their money as paper converters—eventually selling out 15 years ago to the Swedish paper group, Mo Och Domsjö. The family also owns a share in a major jewellery chain in Bond Street, according to Shaw.

It is ironic that Shaw has partly to thank John Nott MP, Secretary for Defence, whom he served alongside in the Gurkhas, for the current revival in interest in gold.

R.B.

Attention all UK expatriates

Resident Abroad, the monthly magazine for UK expatriates, fills an information gap that has existed for far too long. The publication has a special emphasis on personal financial planning, with all you ever wanted to know about earning, spending and saving money outside the UK. This, together with coverage of the wider financial world and the newly expanded general section, provides a wealth of information, advice and comment on all matters of vital importance to the expatriate.

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Acknowledging a trust

Some 30 years ago my father, mother, brother and I moved to our present house which was acquired in my name. My father and mother died some years ago, and my brother and I now live here alone. The property is probably now worth about £150,000.

I have always considered that although this property is registered in my name, I nevertheless hold one half of it in trust for my brother. However, I am now wondering if he would be faced with CTT problems in the event I should predecease him. Is there any action you could suggest to avoid this danger?

Your brother undoubtedly would be likely to have to pay some Capital Transfer Tax on your death, but it would be less if it is only on a half share in the house. You should ensure that the position is recorded now by a written acknowledgment that you have since the purchase of the house held it in trust for your brother and

yourself (or your brother, your parents and yourself) and after your parents' deaths for your own and your brother's benefit. The form in brackets is correct the respective quarter shares should have been included in your parents' estates.

CGT after the Budget

Press comment seems to differ so could you let me know how much CGT would be paid under the Budget proposals in each of the following examples: (1) £5,000 gains made in '81-'82; (2) £5,000 gains made in April '82, 15 per cent inflation since April '81; (3) £5,000 gains made on April 7 '82, 10 per cent inflation since April 6 '82. In all cases stock held for a year and a day.

The complex and arbitrary new indexation and identification rules are set out in clauses 71

Meaning of repairs

Due to faulty design of the roof structure, the roof rafters of my house began to trip the wall plate on one side. In consequence I had to fit steel brackets between rafters and joints and steel tie rods across pairs of opposite brackets.

I consider this to be an alteration rather than maintenance; in effect adding something that should have been fitted on the original building of the house. My view was strengthened by an extract from DIY magazine. But Customs and Excise have written to refute this and say it is repair and maintenance, as follows:

It may be helpful if I explain that the relevant legal provisions are in Group 8 of Schedule 4 to the Finance Act 1972. Item 2 applies the zero rate to services in the course of the construction or alteration of a building, but

note 2a to the Group excludes from item 2 any work of repair or maintenance.

The comments quoted in the article from "Do-it-Yourself" magazine enclosed with your letter came from a judgment of the Appeal Court, which was itself appealed against by the Commissioners to the House of Lords (Commissioners v ACT Construction Ltd.).

The case concerned the underpinning of houses by means of additional foundations and though the Commissioners' appeal was rejected by their Lords in this particular case, they did, in fact, reaffirm that "alteration" in item 2 means "structural alteration" and that the words "repair or maintenance" should be given their ordinary meaning. The matter appears to be one of semantics. The VAT sum involved is approximately £300. Do you recommend taking this any further?

to 74 of, and schedule 9 to, the Finance Bill. They run to some 13 pages, and may well be considered in Committee or on Report, or both.

Briefly, the answers are: (1) £900 (viz £3,000 at 30 per cent); (2) £300 (viz £1,000 at 30 per cent); (3) £150 (viz £500 at 30 per cent).

A cleared account

Some trouble with a mail order book club, which threatened to employ a collection agency to obtain payment for some unwanted and unwanted books, which I had advised them to collect was, I thought, concluded by a letter from the managing director saying the account had been cleared, and that I could dispose of the books as I wished, and a refund of

We agree with the paragraphs you quote of the letter from the Customs and Excise. However we feel that the work done to your roof may amount to a structural alteration. We do not believe that it was "repair or maintenance." In our opinion those words given their ordinary meaning do not include an alteration necessary because of faulty design.

Unless you can convince the Customs they are wrong you will have to take the matter to tribunal if you want to recover the VAT charged. The procedure is set out in an explanatory leaflet which can be obtained from your local VAT office. You must decide if you wish to take the matter further. We can only say that the law in this area is not clear and you have a chance of winning your case. We would not like to say how great that chance is.

FINANCE AND THE FAMILY

BY OUR LEGAL STAFF

postage on my letter which I had demanded.

However, I have now received a demand from a debt collection agency for £10.80, the amount originally in dispute. Apart from the annoyance, I am concerned that, with computerised information and reference, my name may be somewhere recorded as a bad debtor, and my credit permanently impaired. Would you kindly advise me what punitive and remedial action I should take?

In the absence of a judgment debt there should be no problem, as to your general credit rating. You should however advise the collection agency that their principal has agreed that the account is cleared and require their confirmation that they will not pursue the "claim." Your remedy for their conduct is limited. You might be in a position to make a claim for defamation, but it may be difficult to prove publication of the libel. Nevertheless it may prove a useful counter to any further annoyance.

Legal rights to a will

A father died and in his will left the whole of his estate to his second wife, his first having died some years ago. His only son was not left anything at all, and I understand that under Scottish law the son has legal rights to a share of the estate irrespective of the contents of the will. If this is so, how much can he claim, and is there a fixed time limit for this to be done? Under Scottish Law, the children of a deceased person who dies leaving a will are entitled to make a claim against his/her estate known as Legitim, irrespective of whether they receive

any provision under that will. Where the deceased leaves a surviving spouse, the claim to Legitim extends to a one-third interest in his/her moveable estate (ie excluding heritable property) which is divided amongst all the surviving children and issue of children who have predeceased.

Where the deceased does not leave a surviving spouse who would be entitled to claim legal rights in their own right, the Legitim fund is increased to one-half of the moveable estate.

As we understand your letter, the father was survived by a widow and one child, who was his only son. In these circum-

stances, the Legitim fund will be one-third of the moveable estate to which that son alone will be entitled. The claim for legal rights should be made by the son against the executors or the trustees appointed under the will and there is no time limit within which the claim must be made. Obviously for practical reasons, the claim should be made as soon as possible.

No legal responsibility can be accepted by the Financial Times for the answers given in these columns. All inquiries will be answered by post as soon as possible.

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YOUR SAVINGS AND INVESTMENTS-2

CTT and the investor: Eric Short reports on a possible solution

A better inheritance

INVESTORS WISHING to minimise their CTT liability are often faced with a dilemma. They see the need to transfer assets in order to reduce the burden of CTT but may need extra income and want some say in what happens to the assets.

Merchant Investors Assurance, the UK linked-life subsidiary of the Dutch insurance group Nationale-Nederlanden, considers it has the solution to the problem with its Inheritance Trust launched last week.

The contract, a highly tax-efficient vehicle, enables an investor to transfer assets outside his estate, so they can ultimately be passed on free to CTT, yet still retain control and receive an income from those assets that is tax-free up to high levels.

This double advantage of CTT avoidance and tax-free income is made possible by the first instance by measures taken by Sir Geoffrey Howe last year.

The 1981 Finance Act enables investors to make interest-free loans to beneficiaries without incurring a CTT liability provided the money is invested in non-income producing assets. Previously, the amount of interest foregone, calculated on a commercial basis, was assumed to be a transfer for CTT purposes.

This year's Finance Bill makes no move to curb any of the tax avoidance schemes marketed by life companies, that rely on artificial, complex product designs, despite all Sir Geoffrey's crusading language in his Budget Speech.

So how does the Inheritance Trust work?

Stage 1—The investor buys

a single premium bond for a nominal amount, say £500, written under a flexible trust for his chosen beneficiaries. This is a transfer for CTT purposes, but falls comfortably within the annual exemption limit which is currently £3,000. The investor is one of the trustees.

Stage 2—The investor lends the balance of the amount to be transferred to the trustees as an interest-free loan, repayable on demand. For example, if the total transfer is to be £100,000, the loan will amount to £99,500.

Stage 3—The trustees use the loan to purchase a Capital and Income Bond. A life bond is regarded as non-income producing in contrast to, say, unit trusts.

Stage 4—This Bond is a cleverly designed combination of term assurance policies and a regular premium linked savings contract in which all the investment is made and is regarded as qualifying even though the premium is a peppercorn £1.

Stage 5—The investor can withdraw up to 10 per cent of his original investment—of £99,500 in the example—entirely tax-free, the actual amount of withdrawal being varied to meet the investor's circumstances. This is regarded as repayment of the loan. The money comes from cancelling units in the regular premium policy and is not technically income.

Stage 6. After 10 years, withdrawals can be made from the qualifying policy which in theory are tax-free. In practice, there is a danger of the Inland Revenue treating regular income payments under Schedule D. So Merchant Investor sug-

gests that the Bond is taken as several complete policies. When the investor needs income, the trustees transfer a complete policy—as a capital payment. The investor then surrenders the policy over a period to meet his income requirements. The company emphasises that such transfers should avoid a regular pattern.

Stage 7. The trustees can pass on the assets to the beneficiary at any time free of CTT with the agreement of the investor—ultimately the transfer would be made on the death of the investor.

The amount of the loan outstanding remains an asset in the investor's estate. Thus the purpose of the scheme falls if the investor dies in the early years after taking out the plan. But any capital growth on the assets would be free of CTT, and in any event the CTT position is no worse than if the investor had done nothing.

This aspect does, however, highlight the need not to wait before planning action on CTT and the investor should be in good health before taking out an Inheritance Trust.

The choice of fund in which to invest is very important, since each loan repayment comes from a cash-in of units. The investor does not want to be cashing-in units when the price is depressed. So the underlying fund should provide steady growth, as with a property or managed fund, rather than one subject to volatile fluctuations such as UK or overseas equity funds.

An important point is that the investor can only purchase the bond with cash or through a share exchange scheme. So

the plan does not solve the problem of passing on land or property. Nevertheless, despite these definite disadvantages, Merchant Investors' reports investment of over £1m in the scheme in the first days following the launch. Investors should however consult their professional adviser before embarking on this scheme.

A similar plan to minimise CTT while allowing the investor income on the assets and retaining control has been launched by Crescent Life Assurance, the linked life subsidiary of the Life Association of Scotland. This company is also a subsidiary of Nationale-Nederlanden, but is very much a member of the life company Establishment. Jim Soumess, its chief executive, is currently chairman of the Associated Scottish Life Offices.

So it cannot use artificial life contracts under the gentleman's agreement between ASLO and the Revenue. Hence under the Crescent Transfer Trust, the investment is made in an ordinary lifebond which lacks the tax efficiency of the Merchant Investor's Capital and Income Bond.

Under this scheme, the investor can make gifts as well as loans to the trust and take up to 5 per cent of the combined value as income. But these withdrawals are subject to higher rate tax, deferred until the eventual cash-in.

It is difficult to see how this new plan from Crescent can possibly compete with the Merchant Investor scheme while the Revenue continues to take no action on artificial designed life contracts.

Something for self employed

SIR GEOFFREY HOWE has been sympathetic to the needs of the self-employed in making their own pension provision—they only get the basic pension from the State scheme—and has greatly extended the tax concession limits on contributions in each of his past two Budgets.

Now the self-employed, especially those of 50 and over, can put aside worthwhile amounts from their earnings into a pension plan with a life company, getting full tax relief on the contributions.

Life companies, traditional and unit-linked, have taken full advantage of this growing market by designing a variety of schemes offering flexibility of contribution payment, and a wide range of choice in the timing and method of taking the benefits.

To take full advantage of the tax concessions, the self-employed person has first to decide how much he can set aside into a pension plan.

Then the self-employed has to decide whether to make his contributions annually, thus committing himself to future savings. Or whether to make a single premium payment each year and re-assess the situation next year. Or a combination of both.

Planning the pension is a major exercise for the self-employed and his advisers. To understand what is happening, the self-employed needs to understand the basic benefit structure and contribution limits.

The latest edition of the Self-Employed Pensions Handbook now available provides fully updated information on this subject.

Next the self-employed has to decide which type of pension plan he should select, from which life company—and the choice is bewildering. The handbook provides data on 90 companies covering 120 plans—with-profits, unit-linked and deposit administration.

The book describes each type of contract and gives guidelines on which type is preferable for different investors. The book reviews past performance going back eight years, as a guide to the potential of each type and each life company.

Finally, the book has a chapter on the latest development: loanbacks to pension policyholders. It explains how loanbacks operate, with numerical examples and how they can be used.

Self-Employed Pensions. The Marketing Dept., The Financial Times Business Publishing, Greyhound Place, Fetter Lane, London EC4A 3ND. Price £12.50 UK only.

Rosemary Burr continues her series

A boost for that country cottage

THE INTRODUCTION of indexation of Capital Gains Tax in the Budget has made the purchase of second homes and property for letting much more attractive than in the past.

Of course quite a lot depends on what happens to house prices relative to the Retail Price Index. If house prices rocket ahead of the index you could still find yourself paying a fair whack of capital gains tax but even so, it will be much less than under the old rules.

To see how the new system works, let's assume you buy a second house in May 1982 for £200,000. Part of the acquisition is financed by a £20,000 bank loan at 15 per cent which costs you £3,000 a year to service.

Your net rental income after expenses excluding interest is £3,000 a year and this covers the interest charge. In May 1988 you sell the property for £105,500.

In order to work out your CGT bill, first index the cost of the property to take account of an assumed 10 per cent rise in the RPI over each of the five years from May 1982 as the first 12 months of ownership do not qualify for indexation. The indexed cost would be £38,630.

Then subtract the indexed cost from the sale price and the remainder is liable to capital gains tax.

In this case the remainder is £66,870 and, assuming you have no other capital gains, this will

The CGT balancing act



equal your annual exemption, currently £5,000, which is now also indexed. So providing the net rent equals interest due it now pays to gear up. This is because what is indexed is the gross cost not the "actual" investment of £40,000.

Before indexation you would have paid CGT on the monetary gain in value of the property and there was no guarantee that the annual exemption would be increased in line with inflation. The saving is clearly substantial and, with interest rates beneath their peak, it makes sense for more people to examine the possibility of investing in property for letting.

Source: Touche Ross and Company provided information.

Raising the new money

WHO SAYS investment managers no longer raise new money at the top of the market?

The accompanying table is a list of investment trust new issues (new companies and rights issues) between November 1980, when sentiment in the sector generally took a turn for the better, and the present day.

Only Independent, a new company floated by way of a rights issue out of Atlantic Assets in November 1980, has managed to move ahead over the period since its launch, though a couple of others have almost been able to hold their position in difficult conditions.

The warrants of BG Japan, New Tokyo and New Darien make their performance slightly better.

The new issues—which raised about £120m of new money in 1981—were made possible by the increasing enthusiasm last year for specialist investment vehicles. Demand for general investment trusts offering a spread of securities between the UK and overseas markets has been falling steadily over the last decade as the sector has become increasingly dominated by institutions such as the pension funds and insurance companies.

These big shareholders have made it clear that they are more interested in investment trusts with a specialised port-

Name of Trust (Management Group)	Date issued	Issue Price	Price now
New Tokyo (Edinburgh Fund Managers)	Nov 80	100p	99p
Independent (Ivory and Sims)	Nov 80	107p	130p
TR Energy (Touche, Remnant)	Jan 81	100p	61p
New Darien Oil (Hodgson Martin)	Feb 81	100p	70p
GT Global Recovery (GT)	Apr 81	100p	75p
First Charlotte (Ivory and Sims)	May 81	10p	9p
Murray Technology (Murray Johnstone)	May 81	100p	83p
Stewart Enterprise (Stewart Fund Managers)	May 81	36p	31p
FACET (Foreign and Colonial)	July 81	20p	77p
Japan Assets (Ivory and Sims)	July 81	25p	18p
East of Scotland Onshore (East of Scotland)	July 81	54p	52p
Stockholders Far East (John Gove)	Aug 81	\$2	\$1.62
Precious Metals (RIT)	Sept 81	100p	80p
New Australia (Edinburgh Fund Managers)	Nov 81	100p	76p
Baillie Gifford Japan (Baillie Gifford)	Dec 81	100p	75p

folio, rather than those stuffed with the sort of blue chip securities they already hold.

Certain management groups (Touche Remnant and Robert Fleming recently, for example), have changed the aims of existing companies in order to satisfy this wish. Others, egged on in many cases by institutional shareholders which happily accepted pre-placed the first time since the early stock, saw the opportunity to raise new money last year for

Tim Dickson

Moving up the queue for beds

WHEN DIGGING up the creeping clematis in the garden results in a healthy mole, people will curse their luck and join the waiting list for a National Health Service operation. Private hospital fees are soaring and fewer than 1 in 15 in the UK are covered by private health insurance.

A little-known health insurance scheme, however, offers a fresh alternative for those happy with the National Health but unhappy with the prospect of queuing for a hospital bed.

Started up by Private Patients Plan (PPP), a health insurance company, the scheme is effectively complimentary to the NHS, not a replacement for it. For a nominal amount each month, PPP's Private Hospital Plan insures private treatment if a NHS consultant advises an operation but says the waiting list is longer than six weeks.

The nationwide number of patients waiting for NHS operations has dropped in recent years, but the figure is still over 500,000 and the waiting time, on average, is still around five months.

PPP's scheme was first developed for Automobile Association members, but was opened to the general public just two years ago. Since then, subscribers have nearly trebled to more than 17,000.

The fees for the plan vary according to the amount of coverage and the subscribers' age. For a single person under 30, the premium is £3.45 per month, while an older married person with a family pays £10.25 a month for the scheme. The insurance provides coverage up to £3,750 for normal operations and up to £7,500 for heart or cosmetic surgery after an accident.

Full private patient coverage with BUPA or PPP costs up to three or four times more per month than the Private Hospital Plan but it eliminates the use of the NHS.

Under the PPP special plan if the waiting list for a NHS operation is less than six weeks the subscriber then uses National Health facilities, but will receive a cash benefit of £18 per night.

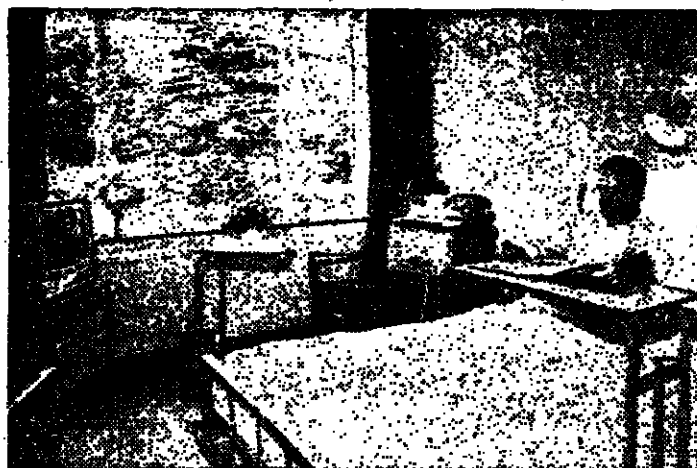
HEALTH COVER

CARLA NAPOPORT

Mr Roy Forman, the marketing director of PPP, says that the scheme was originally designed for people who couldn't afford full health insurance. "In fact, we've found that the plan appeals to people of all income groups. We find it difficult to fathom why some

people choose some plans, but this one seems to be accepted by both the very well-off and those with lower incomes. Even some of the very well-off don't want to spend a lot of money on health insurance."

The hernia operation for the weekend gardener, for example, can cost as much as £1,000 in a private hospital. A knee operation can cost up to £5,000. These costs plus the possible waiting times for a NHS operation make the PPP option one to consider.



Challenge of the TSBs

BUILDING SOCIETIES are in a daze about the competition from the Big Four clearing banks but few of them seem to have noticed that the real long-term threat may well come from the Trustee Savings Banks (TSBs).

Unlike the big banks, the TSBs are tightly controlled by the Treasury in the amount of money they can lend in the house market. Nevertheless, they have lent £225m so far and are allowed to lend another £150m in the current year. If the Treasury took the controls off the TSBs (they must do this over the next few years), they could easily triple their lending without too much difficulty.

Unlike the big banks which have traditionally lent most of their money to industrial borrowers, the TSBs concentrate on the personal customer and, like the building societies, are non-profit making. The home loan market is a natural target for them, and as the controls are removed the TSBs are going to step up their attack on this market.

A sign of things to come is this week's announcement by the TSB South East—Britain's biggest TSB—of its First Time Home Buyers Package. It is offering 100 per cent mortgages of up to £30,000 to young people under 35 who are buying their first home.

A key feature is that the bank is not requiring borrowers to repay any capital during the first five years, only interest. In addition, it is offering 10 per cent discounts on insurance for the home and its contents, and it is throwing in a free valuation report provided a mortgage is taken out.

For other borrowers it is abolishing its £50,000 maximum. This year it plans to lend another £20m taking its mortgage lending up to £82m.

William Hall

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ALCOA

BOOKS

Arthur's kingdom BY T. R. FYVEL

Koestler: A Biography
by Ian Hamilton, Secker and Warburg, £12.00, 398 pages

During the war in 1942, Arthur Koestler met Maimonides, one of the beautiful Paget twins. He and she lived together for the next 10 years, for most of the time in marriage—Maimonides died of leprosy not long after their (by no means friendly) separation. During those years Maimonides wrote constant letters to her sister, Celia. Mr Hamilton has treated this lengthy correspondence as vital documentation about Koestler. This is a pity, for Koestler's letters are as beautiful, but feel that they are written to her twin sister, Celia. Koestler's letters are as beautiful, but feel that they are written to her twin sister, Celia. Koestler's letters are as beautiful, but feel that they are written to her twin sister, Celia.

In undertaking the daunting task of writing a biography of Koestler, Mr Hamilton had to face two serious difficulties. His subject's earlier life, the path which led him from Hungary to Berlin, Palestine,

the Soviet Union, the Spanish civil war and his dramatic break with Communism has been dealt with at length in Koestler's autobiography, and books like *The Spanish Testament*. Koestler himself has already said it all. Mr Hamilton wisely covers these years only in brief.

Similarly, Mr Hamilton is equally brief about some of Koestler's later writings on scientific matters which he lacks the expert knowledge to judge. Thus, the biography is mainly focused on Koestler's middle years, during which he changed from being the embattled political author of *Darkness at Noon* to becoming the detached writer about Renaissance astronomy and modern science.

In covering these years, Mr Hamilton, quotes far too much and too often from the opinions of reviewers and others. Still, from his pages some kind of sketchy picture does emerge, of Koestler as a restless intellectual always on the move. We see him consorting, now with Bertrand Russell, George Orwell and David Astor in England, now with Sartre, Camus and de Beauvoir in Paris; now with Jewish intellectuals in Palestine; now with their counterparts in the U.S., before finally settling down in England.

We see him always among causes. In 1945, with Orwell and others, he tried to get up a body of writers to defend Western values. This effort quickly came to nothing, but next one sees Koestler deeply identified with the Jewish struggle for the state



Trevor Humphries
Koestler:
hunches and hang-ups

of Israel, about which he wrote a notable novel, *Thulea in the Night*, before losing interest in the subject. In 1950 he took the initiative in the international meeting of writers in Berlin from which the Congress for Cultural Freedom emerged, but he quickly resigned from the Congress. Next, in Britain, he was campaigning with Astor against capital punishment and for penal reform—to this cause he has remained constant.

In discussing the books and the many articles which Koestler produced during those

years, Mr Hamilton misses an important point. Koestler may have written first in German, then in English, and may have always been conscious that he was Jewish; but he was born a Hungarian. As a wise friend told me, Hungarian intellectuals are today's prime interpreters, and this has been Koestler's basic theme: ceaselessly to seek experience, and then to interpret it. Thus in *Spanish Testament*, he interpreted his experience, with its mystic moments, of being Franco's endangered prisoner. In his great classic work, *Darkness at Noon*, he tried to interpret the mechanics of Stalin's nihilism. In writing about researchers into the Universe, from Copernicus to Newton in *The Sleepwalkers*, he tried to interpret how Western thought developed during the Renaissance.

In all his later writings about *The Yogi and the Communist*, about questions of scientific judgment, of psychology and parapsychology, he has sought to interpret all possible views about the human situation: why one could, as he said, be a short-term pessimist but a long-term optimist about man's fate. I think that Koestler's interpretations have always been relevant to our central concerns, but *Darkness at Noon* apart, his abiding value has still to be judged. Mr Hamilton, in his curiously documented book, does not attempt any such judgment, but he has produced some of the raw material for those who will essay the synthesis which the work of this most serious writer demands.



Alison Lurie
The Language of Clothes
(Heinemann £10.00). Miss Lurie comments: "the gambler's striped suit, like that of the stockbroker, suggests the ruled columns of a ledger. Note also the dark shirt and white tie of his friend, which, reversing the customary colours of the business costume, implies a reversal of conventional values." The book contains much more of the same.

Freeze frame

Polanski: His Life and Films
by Barbara Leaming, Hamish Hamilton, £9.95 (paperback \$5.95), 154 pages

Polanski's life and Polanski's films share the same nightmarish quality. It is inevitable that the artist uses material from his own life—but in Polanski's case the emphasis is somewhat different. It is almost as if real life echoes the violence of his imagination rather than the other way round. Thus the terrifying murder of his pregnant wife, Sharon Tate, and her friends became, with the help of over-excited (and creative) media, as mythic as anything he'd put on celluloid. Polanski himself seemed confused, posing as if for a film still, on the blood-spattered steps of the house in Cleo Drive where the Manson gang struck. He took this condition a stage further when he chose to make *Macbeth* his next film.

Later in life and career, another parallel occurred when, after being sentenced for the statutory rape of a 13-year-old girl, he picked up *Tess of the D'Urbervilles* as his next film. Polanski's life story opens in Poland in the 1930s. At the start he is the victim. In 1941 the eight-year-old Jewish boy, "Romek", is thrown out of a truck by his mother. She is on her way to a concentration camp where she dies. "Romek" returns to his father and Cracow ghetto. But his father is also taken away. Somehow the boy survives, spending time in a village with a Catholic peasant family. After the war, father and son are reunited in their war-torn city, but only until the father's remarriage, when he throws his difficult son out of the house. Roman Polanski's character is already formed. Always physically undersized, he moves among the desperate like a demonic force, a survivor who has had no time to learn about morality. Nor even good behaviour.

Soon he is a successful film actor and then, enrolling in the famous Polish Film School, moves to directing. But the restricted scope of East European cinema is not enough for him. He wants the mass audience of the West. *Rafle in the Water* is his Polish success. *Cul de Sac* and *Repulsion* are made in the London of the Swinging Sixties. At last he is poised for the final move West. As Ms Leaming writes, "Roman Polanski was a natural for Hollywood. His interests were right—sex, violence, madness, the bizarre." In this atmosphere Polanski produced the highly successful *Rosemary's Baby* and *Chinatown*.

The total amorality both of his life-style and his creative vision found, so it seemed, an appropriate home in the Hollywood of the late 1960s. There is, of course, a distinction between life and art. No one would deny Polanski's talents as an extraordinarily gifted and hard-working filmmaker. But the effect of this book, the juxtaposition of his extremely unedifying personal life with his similarly unpleasant screen inventions, is to make one question one's own role as spectator.

RACHEL BILLINGTON

Fiction

Way out BY ADAM MARS-JONES

The Making of the Representative for Planet 8
by Doris Lessing, Jonathan Cape, £5.50, 145 pages

Before She Met Me
by Julian Barnes, Jonathan Cape, £5.50, 183 pages

Next to Nature, Art
by Penelope Lively, Heinemann, £6.95, 186 pages

Unannounced, and perhaps unsuspected by herself, Doris Lessing has stopped writing novels. In her sequence *Canopus in Argos: Archives* she is doing something else. But what?

The Making of the Representative for Planet 8 is the fourth in the sequence, and the shortest to date. It describes the material, social, philosophical and spiritual changes brought about in the inhabitants of Planet 8 when their world, once fertile, slowly freezes. The inhabitants (who speculate in long, awkward monologues on their place in the universe) are the handiwork of another species, referred to as "Canopus", which seeks, by advice and instruction, to raise its creatures to its own high level.

The volume is rounded out with an odd Afterword meditating on Scott of the Antarctic. This generates a certain definite momentum; but too late to save a book which seems at once time and self-indulgent. It is, unfortunately, possible for a writer to rediscover in fantasy all the banality of realism.

Julian Barnes' *Before She Met Me* is by contrast both disciplined and rich. It is a mad scramble for all the parts, since even "walk-ons" deliver splendid lines of analytical comedy; and if there is a single distinct personality behind all the wisecracks, that does not make them any less neat or funny. The danger is rather that the manifold surface

pleasures of the book deter the reader from expecting pity and terror in any measure from its plot.

Graham Hendrick is in his early 40s, secure in his job and intensely happy with his second wife. Then he starts to get jealous; not in the present (for she is devoted to him), but of her past, when she was an actress and fancy-free. His interest in her past lovers starts as a quirk, continues as a hobby, and ends as a terrible obsession. It makes inroads into every part of his life; and it destroys him.

Graham's brain, in fact, becomes his enemy. Instinct and intellect are profoundly incompatible, as the book's first epigraph, taken from a medical journal, points out; so presumably Graham has been lucky to fall apart so late in life. The book itself is very much a super-ego job, a cool account of turmoil. At one point, during recognitions on his face "the expression of a superman" who "does not need anything from the deep freeze but still peers briefly and ritually into it." It takes the reader a moment to realise that, scrutinising her husband's lack of passion, she is being at least as dispassionate as he is.

The presiding tone of the book is a dismissive wryness, which defuses and interprets and tames; so that it becomes puzzling rather than upsetting that Graham has not developed the narrative's immunity to irrational drives. It seems almost perverse that he doesn't step back from the brink.

In *Before She Met Me* Julian Barnes has extended his range without modifying his tone. What this story calls for is a replete with a pen; no worse description of him could be devised. Even at his most elegant he is not a writer. When it comes to giving such a sane and balanced account of a



Doris Lessing
where have all the novels gone?

destructive obsession, Apollo, for all his brilliance and worldly-wisdom, comes close to patronising Dionysus.

Almost every character in Penelope Lively's delightful *Next to Nature, Art* is impersonating Dionysus for pleasure and profit. The setting is Franchise Creative Study Centre, a state home to which a dozen amateurs come for a week of supervised self-expression. There is pottery and poetry, there is pretension and self-promotion, and (to start with) there are Filipino servants to do the chores. The book, which has a distinct echo of Iris Murdoch's *The Bell*, mildly rebukes the idea of art as something sacred and separate. Relief from the manufactured intensity of the staff and the gullibility of the students is provided by the child Jason, who is emotional without needing to work at it, and by Mary Chambers, who notices things without being seen to do so. One exquisite passage of description from her point of view does for slugs what *Black Beauty* does for horses, and establishes them as black beauties in their own right.

Plight of the Poles now

BY ANTHONY ROBINSON

The Polish Ordeal
by Andrzej Szczepiorski, translated by Celia Wieniewska, Croom Helm, £7.50, 153 pages

The Book of Lech Walsia
Allen Lane (hardback) £8.50, Penguin £2.50, 203 pages

The Polish August
by Neil Ascherson, Penguin, £2.95, 281 pages

God's Playground: A History of Poland
by Norman Davies, Oxford, two volumes, £27.50 each, 605 and 725 pages

When General Jaruzelski unleashed his troops to try to occupy that vast territory of the Polish mind occupied by Solidarity and its supporters, he included in the list of illustrious jail birds a 61-year-old journalist and novelist called Andrzej Szczepiorski. But before that unexpected knock in the middle of a December night Mr Szczepiorski had already sent to Croom Helm, his London publisher, the typescript of a slim, 153 page volume, now published under the prosaic title *The Polish Ordeal*. We can be grateful for his presence.

This wry, self-effacing canter through recent Polish history from the Restoration of national sovereignty in 1918 up to the very eve of the imposition of martial law is, to my mind, quite the most fascinating insight view of the tragicomic saga of modern Poland to hand.

It provides the reader with a lucid insight into the way in which a cultured, intelligent Pole views the dramatic events of this century; and leaves a strong feeling of the ultimate futility of present attempts to deflect the Polish nation from its determination to live with honour in its own country.

As a Pole, citizen of a flat country surrounded by Russians and Germans, Mr Szczepiorski's appreciation of the basic historical fact of European culture. The east-west division of Europe was not a product of the Bolshevik revolution, nor of Winston Churchill's Fulton speech, but of a far older and deeper division.

"It was here on the border of Russian and Polish lands, between the Dnieper and the Bug Rivers that one of the longest and most passionate dramas in the history of Europe has been played out. Russia drew her vital inspiration from Byzantium, Poland from Rome. Russia brought forth in her history an autocratic empire, Poland a republic with an elected king in the end Poland found herself under Russian rule at a time when it had outlasted her conqueror completely in culture and civilisation."

That is how Poles felt at the time of the 18th century partitions. They still feel it now, tempered, however, by the feeling expressed most clearly during the retreat of the beaten Russian armies in 1915 that "these were... Slavonic fellow tribesmen"; while the

Germans were "the eternal invaders and pillagers who, by fire and sword, wanted to subjugate slavish Eastern Europe."

But it is Poland since 1918 which is the real subject of Mr Szczepiorski's book. It is the Poland whose tradition kept alive by the Catholic Church, whose inhabitants recreated a unified Polish state, after 1918, out of a polyglot population which for over a century had been ruled in very different ways by Prussians, Russians and Austrians. Mr Szczepiorski has praise for Marshal Pilsudski, the inter-war military dictator, but also for Mr Wladyslaw Gombinski, the anti-Stalinist national Communist.

Like the vast majority of Poles, Mr Szczepiorski is not a Communist, and he shares the bitterness of those who fought Nazi tyranny for six years at home and abroad, only to have a new form of alien rule imposed in the wake of the "liberating" Red Army advance. But he is not blind to the way in which the new Communist rulers managed to inspire Poles, after 1945, into making a success of collective life. The former German lands in the West, "these were bestowed by Stalin in compensation for the loss of Vilnius and Lwow in the East, in order to give Poles a stake in the post-war division of Europe."

The Stalinist rule of Bierut, the post-war leader, succeeded in alienating most Poles from Communism for ever. He was followed by Gomulka's narrow-minded, dogmatic and penny-pinching; but nevertheless, patriot Mr Szczepiorski's spleen is reserved for Mr Gomulka's successor—Edward Giersek. His rule was:

"the government of corrupted, sunken, in the whole expanse of a modern country in the case of Europe there was no state, there was no law, only an enormous feudal court that gnawed like a malignant cancer at the entrails of the nation."

A start was made in eliminating this cancer in August 1980. Then Lech Walsia, unemployed electrician turned tribune of the people, revealed that at the heart of this cancerous growth was a vacuum. Since December, Mr Walsia, like Mr Szczepiorski and over 4,000 other leaders and intellectuals, has been silenced, and the vacuum at the heart of the official Communist State has been superficially filled by the army. But Mr Walsia's eloquent silence since then confirms him as a man whose stature and future importance cannot be denied.

For those who have not read their newspapers for the last two years, Allen Lane has published a collective portrait of the man written by Solidarity members and others who knew him in obscurity; we dealt with him during the 18 tumultuous months of Solidarity's existence. It adds little, however, to the identikit already built up by the media; and the man's own direct roughneck honesty and communicability. Taken together, however, these two "inside views" of the Polish crisis and its protagonists provide a welcome addition to the state of recent publications by non-Poles of

which Neil Ascherson's *The Polish August*, now issued by Penguin, is a second edition followed by a brief post-December postscript, and the superb two-volume *History of Poland*, written by Norman Davies and published by the Oxford University Press, are far and away the best.

Aussie

BY GAY FIRTH

Her Unknown (Brilliant) Career
by Verna Coleman, Angus and Robertson, £9.95, 218 pages

Stella Miles Franklin achieved literary success in 1901 with *My Brilliant Career*; but her autobiography of a strong, independent young woman from the Australian sticks—now made into a strong, independent film.

In 1906, in her mid-twenties, she sailed for America; and did not return home for nearly 20 years. These lost years were devoted less to novel-writing than to political activism. Verna Coleman's account of them makes somewhat dispiriting reading. Here is a muddled sequel to a girlhood fuelled by blazing anger and creative energy. Stella Franklin developed her feminist enthusiasm working in the Chicago labour movement; then in the National Women's Trade Union League, writing for the *Life and Labor*. She continued to write novels in America, and later in London; but with less energy and little success. Propaganda, preoccupied her. Artistic confidence waned. "Hard work, personal perplexity, ill health and discontent" sounds terribly sad.

But Mrs Coleman's earnest biography, often flooded with less-than-thrilling detail to illustrate a personal quality which remained optimistic, a fair for language which, faded in later novels, flourished in crusading articles; combined with a vivid gift for friendship. The golden girl who had kicked up a lot of Australian dust went on kicking dust, doggedly, until she came to it.

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FINANCIAL TIMES SURVEY

Saturday April 17, 1982

Personal Financial Planning

A complete overhaul of the law governing savings is on the cards following the Government-sponsored report by Professor Jim Gower on the movement. Meanwhile the individual saver and investor has to choose from a field where besides greater public scrutiny there is increasing competition for his favour among the various sectors.

Approach needs careful charting

By Rosemary Burr

THE SAVINGS industry has been thrust into the spotlight of public debate over the past fifteen months. Not usually considered one of the most aggressive parts of British industry, this sector is facing a period of intensified competition at a time when its regulation is under scrutiny.

The old boundaries defining the activities of investment institutions are being rewritten. The banks are taking on the building societies on their home ground of mortgage lending. The building societies, in their turn, are starting to encroach on the bank's traditional preserve of money transmission services.

The wind of change is also blowing through the unit trust sector. With the growth in specialised unit trusts the management groups are increasingly finding themselves pressed into the role of investment managers as they advise their clients on when to switch from fund to fund.

The rationale for investment trusts is under attack. Institu-

tion investors have led the call for a radical reorganisation of the sector in an attempt to improve the trusts' investment performance and reduce the differences between trusts' share prices and the underlying value of their assets.

The industry has also had to contend with the vagaries of Government policy. Over the past two years the Government has carved out for itself a growing slice of the investment market. The growth in National Savings was taking place at a time when investors were reducing their overall level of savings in an attempt to maintain their standard of living.

Aggressive selling of Government wares such as index-linked stocks only served to intensify the pressure within the savings cauldron. The Government took some of the heat out of the situation in the Budget when it announced a lower National Savings target for the coming year and by its pricing of the 24th National Savings certificate, which left other savings institutions looking relatively attractive to investors.

Against this backdrop the industry has been pushed into the limelight because of the inadequate protection offered to investors. Two highly publicised financial collapses last year—that of Norton Werburg, the investment managers, and Dorr, the commodity dealers—only served to emphasise the gaping hole in the existing web of legislation.

The legislation regulating the securities industry has been on the statute book for more than 40 years and is clearly inadequate in today's marketplace.

All you need to get a Government licence to handle other people's money is a clean police record, two testimonials and £500. It is even easier to set up shop as an investment adviser since no qualifications are needed.

Tinkered

Part of the reason for the inadequate state of present legislation is that past governments have tinkered with the rules controlling the investment institutions instead of giving the law a complete overhaul. The result has been a confusing criss-cross of legislation, with some institutions such as banks and unit trusts heavily regulated, while others such as commodity dealers offering investment advice "fall between legislative stools," according to the Department of Trade.

Last year the Government decided to take the bull by the horns and appointed Professor Jim Gower to examine whether investors in securities were in need of greater protection. The Department of Trade itself has issued a series of proposals designed to tighten its control over licensed securities dealers.

The proposals published in January have not yet been dressed into final shape. The Department of Trade is still digesting the City's reaction. A draft will be circulated before the summer recess and will then be voted on by members of both Houses of Parliament.

The new rules are unlikely to come into effect for several months but the Department says it is "already tightening up procedures." It admits at the same time that it has been un-



Professor Jim Gower—his report left no corner of the savings market untouched

able to secure a substantial boost to the staff involved.

In their current form the proposals go some way towards placating the Department's critics but without more staff even the best intentions will be difficult to put into practice. Of particular note is the prescribed treatment of clients' money as a trust fund. This is designed to ensure that clients' accounts opened by dealers or investment managers will benefit from the same care a bank would lavish on a trustee account in the normal run of business.

The proposals include an attempt to rule out possible conflicts of interests—for

licensed dealers. The Department says dealers should only act as agents for their discretionary or managed clients. In the rare cases where dealers act as principals the Department is suggesting that full details of the transactions should be noted.

While welcoming the Department's proposals as a step in the right direction most City institutions were firmly of the opinion that something rather more "sweeping" was needed. Few, however, were prepared for the wholesale review of the savings industry which Professor Gower launched on an unsuspecting public at the end of January.

In a lucid 142-page report Professor Gower left virtually no corner of the savings market untouched and even managed to include the pensions industry. He ended up expressing a preference for a radical restructuring of the existing mechanisms to create a new balance between the Government and self-regulatory agencies.

Central to his proposal was the call for four self-regulatory agencies to police the savings industry. These agencies would be set up with statutory backing of the Department of Trade and it would become an offence to carry on business without being registered by the appropriate body.

In order to gain approval an agency's rules would need to be "adequate" to ensure the orderly running of its market, contain powers to enforce compliance from members, provide structures to educate members and a compensation fund to protect investors in the case of collapse. The agencies would

undertake the day-to-day administration, leaving the Government to concentrate on overall surveillance.

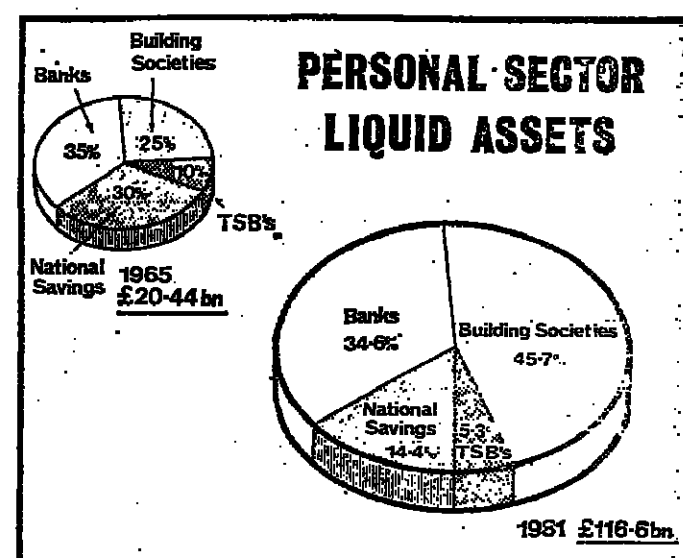
Professor Gower is particularly forthright in his comments on the lack of regulation of investment managers and advisers. He points to both "a gap in the coverage of controls and in their exercise." The Department of Trade, he argues, has insufficient powers to control investment managers and advisers rather than traditional dealers in securities. He calls for "primary legislation" in order to achieve "a satisfactory result."

Response

There is little chance, however, of "primary legislation" on investor protection during the lifetime of the present Parliament. Professor Gower is currently wading through a hefty postbag from consumers but the professionals appear to be more tardy in their response. It already looks as if some institutions, including the Council for the Securities Industry, will not meet the May deadline.

It is unlikely that Gower's final report will see the light of day before next spring. What is clear is that having got to grips with the issue he is not going to let go in a hurry. The initial response to his comments, it appears, has done nothing to alter his views. If anything, it seems, further discussions has only served to reinforce his original contentions.

The subject of investor protection is firmly planted in the centre of the financial stage. As one investment manager said: "The Government will find



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it difficult to sweep the Gower report under the carpet as it caused such a stink."

Dr Gerard Vaughan, the new Minister for Consumer Affairs, showed last month he was not content to let the grass grow under his feet. He announced plans to implement the outstanding provisions of the Consumer Credit Act 1974 by the end of the year. Among the provisions to be brought into force is one requiring the true cost of a loan in the form of an annual percentage rate to be included in all credit agreements.

Earlier in the year the Government took the savings industry by surprise in announcing it was asking the National Consumer Council (NCC) to investigate personal banking services. The move followed a recommendation from the Office of Fair Trading (OFT) about the need for such an inquiry. The NCC expects to take about a year to draw up a series of recommendations, so these should coincide nicely with Professor Gower's final report.

In addition the OFT is currently considering whether to launch an inquiry into one or more building societies. It has been having what it describes as "informal talks with a couple of well-known societies." Its concern centres on the inadequate choice of insurance companies given to borrowers and the general language of policies and loan agreements, which it argues are sometimes unintelligible.

The fruits of much of this official attention should land in the Government's lap next spring. New legislation remains some way off, so for the moment it is up to the individual to be his own White Knight.

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PERSONAL FINANCIAL PLANNING II

Support and advice for the would-be entrepreneur

OFFICIAL SUPPORT for those starting their own business has probably never been greater. Anyone thinking of taking this major step with their own money, however, should consider the options very carefully and if necessary be prepared to heed the advice of people who do not share their optimism. The pitfalls are considerable.

While this may be easier said than done—and while the list of successful companies, particularly in the high technology field, which failed initially to get financial backing from those who claimed to know must always give hope to the budding entrepreneur—there is now a wide range of good advisors in both the private and public sector capable of lending support and on occasions pointing out that the wheel has already been invented.

Small business strategy is undoubtedly a very important part of overall Government economic policy. The shake-out caused by high interest rates and the tight money regime at a time of world recession has not only left many on the dole queues but has also left many inside large companies feeling insecure and apprehensive about further corporate cutbacks.

If the growth of enterprise agencies, new local authority schemes and other initiatives to promote employment and business creation were reflected by the increase in sound new businesses, the Thatcher experiment would certainly be working. But these are not necessarily reliable indicators and at this stage statisticians and politicians can do little more than guess at what is happening.

Some helpful evidence was produced earlier this year by Mr A. Ganguly, the statistician at the Department of Industry. After studying the VAT records for 1980 he discovered that of the total 1.32m legal individual units in 1980 around 10,000 new

businesses were registered each month and another 10,000 disappeared. There were therefore broadly speaking no net new additions and the annual "turnover" of businesses was very roughly 10 per cent.

Ganguly stresses that these figures are only estimates and indeed they do have limitations. Businesses with sales of less than £15,000, for example, did not have to register for VAT and while this was set at a level to bring in virtually all full-

Starting up a business

TIM DICKSON

time traders, many businesses may have been missed. That would seem to be confirmed by a recent estimate from Mr Graham Eannock, managing director of the Economist Intelligence Unit, that the total stock of UK businesses is 2.3m.

The key message of the Ganguly figures, however, is the high rate of withdrawals from the register (presumably because of failure) as well as the promising number of new ventures. Experience elsewhere suggests that as many as eight out of ten new businesses ultimately fail in the first couple of years, so the chances of success would not appear to be all that good.

What, though, has the Government done to make it all easier? Ministers can often be heard reeling off a list of measures which they have introduced since the Tories came to power in 1979—though Mr Harold Lever, the first Minister ever to be given special responsibility for small firms, also deserves considerable credit for his achievements under the last

Labour administration.

The Government's list of measures aimed at helping small companies now totals more than 80 and though most of these are actually for existing companies there is significant support for start-ups. There is not room to mention them all but the most eye-catching perhaps is the Government's Business Start Up Scheme.

Introduced in the 1981 Finance Act the scheme allows individuals to claim tax relief on an equity investment in a "new" company (up to five years old) at their top marginal tax rate. Naturally there are certain restrictions on the type of company (financial services businesses, for example, are excluded) and limits on the amount of relief any one individual can claim. The maximum investment was £10,000 for 1981-1982, though this has been raised to £20,000 in respect of 1982-83 and 1983-84. (Unused relief last year can be carried forward making the effective maximum £30,000 for 1982-83.)

The effect of this measure is that the net cost of a £10,000 investment in a new company is only £2,500 to someone paying tax at 75 per cent. Besides being an attractive deal for investors the scheme is potentially a great help to the would-be entrepreneur looking for start-up funds.

Appreciating the difficulties of bringing together the individual investor and the right entrepreneur for him, a number of promoters have set up funds which allow participants to take advantage of the scheme. The biggest of these is the £8.6m. Electra Risk Capital, while stockbrokers Lawrence Prust have been involved in two, known as the Basilston Fund and the Second Basilston Fund. The £1.1m. Basilston Fund is already fully invested in a wide variety of new businesses.

The Government clearly intended the scheme to be used by individuals on a "Do it Yourself" basis. At this stage, however, accountants report only a trickle of cases where investments are being made with the scheme in mind. The feeling is that there are still too many restrictions and uncertainties, though some of the small print could well be changed during the committee stage of this year's Finance Bill. Anyone using the scheme should nevertheless liaise closely with an accountant or other professional advisor.

The Government Loan Guarantee Scheme, which is being run through the clearing banks, is the other small owners' measure of the past three years. This provides a Government guarantee for 80 per cent of a medium-term loan

in return for a 3 per cent "premium" paid by the borrower. The idea is to encourage the banks to lend to "marginal" cases which they would have turned down without the guarantee and although it is aimed at existing companies about half of those which have been approved by the Department of Industry have apparently been new businesses.

The Government has also helped by improving the tax regime. The reductions in income tax and the indexation of capital gains tax are of course incentives for everyone but specific action has been taken to help small companies. In the last Budget, for example, the small companies Corporation Tax rate was raised, enabling moves were made to help unquoted companies to buy back their own shares; tax relief

on interest borrowed to invest in close companies was extended to a wider group.

The steps to be taken in setting up a business are numerous but money is generally the first hurdle. Here the bank is inevitably the first port of call and a well prepared financial plan is absolutely essential. Before doing this one possibility might be to go on a start-up course and there are literally scores of educational establishments and other agencies running relevant "events".

Other considerations at the outset include premises (again there are many organisations prepared to help) and marketing. A major pitfall once a good product or service has been developed is forgetting to ask the question, "Who will buy it?"

The Department of Industry

has a Small Firms Counselling Service; British Steel Corporation (Industry) can provide advice and financial support in steel closure areas; Enterprise Agencies are springing up supported by big companies (though the quality of their activities varies); good bank managers and accountants should always be prepared to listen. The range of experts and the sources of finance are considerable but it is impossible to lay down rules. At the end of the day much depends on the individuals involved, so it is well worth shopping around.

One of the best publications on what is available is "Sources of Information for New and Small Business," prepared by Mr Colin Barrow of Thames Enterprise Agency in collaboration with the BBC and Shell UK. This is good value* and it

has countless names* and addresses of useful educational establishments, sources of money, organisations which will help with marketing and marketing tips on how to find out about patents, trademarks, copyright, VAT, employment law, pensions and National Insurance etc., and other specialist small-business advisory services.

Other useful guides (on money) are Finding Money for Your Business (Price £3.50 from CBI Publication Sales, 100 New Oxford Street, London WC1A 1DU) and Money for Business, which is available from the Bank of England City Communications Centre.

*Price £1 from Colin Barrow, Business Club, Thames Polytechnic, Riverside House, London SE18 5BH. Cheques payable to "Business Club" and send large 25p SAE.

Opportunities to enjoy tax-free savings

GOING OVERSEAS to work can provide a major opportunity to earn a substantially higher salary. Initial calculations of how much better off the expatriate family will be often go wide of reality but nevertheless living and working outside the UK inevitably makes it easier to gather capital. Not only does a higher proportion of salary reach the bank account; there is a chance to accumulate savings free of UK income and capital gains taxes.

Now that exchange controls have been abolished in the UK the main difference of working overseas is taxation. An essential issue for investment and other decisions will hinge on the tax status established with the Inland Revenue.

Someone who is only going abroad for a few months will not face too many problems sorting out his affairs. On condition that at least 90 days have been spent working outside the UK then a quarter of the income relating to overseas work is exempt from tax. Relief is available for longer stays abroad and can be pushed up to 100 per cent if the "qualifying period" is over a year.

The idea is to lose UK residence, at least as far as the Revenue is concerned. In a nutshell the Revenue seeks to tax income arising in the UK, no matter to whom it belongs, and

to tax all income earned by UK residents no matter where it arises.

The Revenue takes the line that an individual is resident if he spends 183 days or more in a tax year in the UK or if he spends more than 90 days on average in the UK over a span of four years.

A non-working expatriate is also considered to be a UK resident if he retains accommodation for himself in the UK and visits the country just once. It does not matter how short the visit or whether or not he used his accommodation.

Where a person goes to work overseas on a full time contract of employment, which means he will be out of the country for at least one full tax year, he will be treated as a non-resident by the Revenue from day one. Visits to the UK will not affect his status as long as the 183-day rule is not broken.

Again, on the score of taxation, potential expatriates should not ignore capital gains tax considerations. If it is necessary to dispose of assets before departing try to avoid selling investments showing capital gains tax liabilities. Once non-residency has been established, these can be sold without any tax liability. Similarly assets to be disposed of which would show a loss should be sold while still a resident, therefore establishing a tax loss which can be carried forward to the expatriate's return to the UK.

Nothing to do with taxation ever seems straightforward and the position for both income and capital gains taxes can be further complicated for a married couple, especially if one remains a resident while the other is abroad and technically a non-resident. It is just as well to get full professional advice in advance of going abroad.

Though exchange controls no longer exist in the UK, they do to a lesser or greater extent in many other countries. If you find yourself working in a country with tight regulations, you will want just enough of your income paid into an account there to cover your living needs, with the rest diverted to a control-free area — tax havens such as the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man are ideal for the British expatriate.

Where to turn to for advice? The UK clearing and merchant banks are the obvious first port of call. All have plenty of expertise in guiding potential expatriates and few will be without offices in the traditional tax havens — a hang-over from the days of strict exchange

regulations. In many respects the British expatriate is particularly fortunate in that his clearing bank may well have more than just a representative office in the country of his work. He can therefore keep transfers to and from the UK, country of employment and perhaps a financial offshore centre all under "one roof".

All the established (and the not so established) fund management houses are willing to offer investment advice. But unless you are a particularly large investor, apart from establishing an overall strategy at the outset there is unlikely to be any real personal service. The chances are that investment will be directed towards one or more managed funds, perhaps in-house, and possibly linked to an insurance policy.

Yet if the expatriate investor has a considerable sum to invest — say £50,000 or more, there will be little difficulty in obtaining a more specialised service. It is worth while shopping around, approaching a wide spread of advisors from stockbrokers to Swiss bankers (assuming you have enough to

interest them). Find out what they have to offer and examine past performance — though history, of course, can only be a guide.

Finally keep a sharp eye on the charges. They can vary enormously and come in many various guises. The expatriate, just like any other investor, has to weigh up his investment portfolio in terms of both performance and tax-efficiency. For the expatriate, his change of tax status throws many of his past investment criteria out of the window. Bank deposits are a tax-efficient way of holding funds in the UK as are some National Savings and Government stocks.

But where dividends are taxable at source they no longer represent a viable holding unless there is hope of substantial capital gain. The caveat here is if there is a double taxation agreement with the country where you are working. That may enable you to claim back part or all of the tax paid. Building society deposits, for example, would represent a pretty poor choice of investment for the average expatriate.

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Working abroad

TERRY GARRETT

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There is also spread of investment to be considered, not only in terms of type but also geographically and with diverse currency exposure. There is no reason to assume an automatic bias towards the UK, though if an investor is handling his own portfolio it is likely that he will stick with a market he knows best. Some people feel more comfortable with sterling investments when they intend ultimately to come back to the UK, though that does mean passing up some considerable opportunities.

It is not possible to go into a detailed strategy but the expatriate has a wide choice of investment media. Much of the decision-making will of course be constrained by the amount there is to invest. The opportunities include direct equity investment and fixed interest stocks and bonds in a wide number of markets, as well as Eurobonds, commodity funds and currency funds, right through to physical assets such as metal, property or the "alternatives".

Some are more appropriate than others as far as the expatriate is concerned. Bearing in mind the tax advantages of non-residency in times of high interest rates, high return and well secured assets who can reap the benefit of gross interest payments is in an enviable position. So at present the non-resident might lean towards high-yielding bonds or perhaps Eurobonds.

The latter may seem rather complicated. Dealing, it is true, is not straightforward but in some respects the qualities of Eurobonds make them ideal investments. They are secure, payments are made gross and generally they offer a higher return than bank deposits. For those with insufficient capital expertise to invest direct there are several international bond funds on offer which should not be overlooked.

Finally, just as the expatriate needs professional advice before he leaves the UK shores he will need a great deal as he prepares to return. From the day that he lands in the UK he will resume his resident status again and his worldwide income will become subject to UK tax again.

For the employee his income will revert to PAYE with little fuss, though he may get a bit of a holiday for he will be able to offset a full year of tax allowances even if he returns for only a small proportion of the financial year. Dealing with investment income is more complex, however, and the unwary can end up paying more tax than need be.

READING THIS AD COULD BE THE BEST INVESTMENT YOU'LL EVER MAKE

SPECIALISATION PAYS DIVIDENDS

For many years unit trusts have provided wise and rewarding ways to invest. But with the world economy in a state of recession it has become even more necessary to look further within the world of unit trusts for ways to make your investments more flexible and fruitful. It is with this in mind that NatWest Unit Trust Managers have launched a range of specifically tailored unit trusts that combine their experience and skill.

They have sought through this diversification and specialisation to make each one of these unit trusts a successful and profitable way to invest your money over the long term. In fact, Money Management statistics show that several NatWest trusts are consistently amongst sector leaders.

Four of our unit trusts are described below. As you will see, a striking rate of return can be achieved in the short term but it is essential to remember that all four of them should be viewed with the long term in mind. They all have this in common, along with the specialisation factor which reflects the expertise and experience of our Investment Managers.

Each one of them has behind it a single-minded investment philosophy in a very specific area, because our Managers believe that now is the time to make sound but imaginative investments in areas of great potential. This is what these trusts are all about.

The North American Growth Trust was launched in January 1978 as the Universal Fund (re-named Dec. 1981). This trust has specialised in growth areas in the North American continent since its launch. It has been closely committed to the progress of the oil industry in that time and has experienced commensurate volatility. In fact against a background of price weakness the oil industry has suffered recently. But most responsible investment managers agree that oil will re-establish itself as a long term investment area.

The Smaller Companies Trust was set up at the end of 1979. Since then we all know that smaller companies have taken a battering as a result of the general economic situation. But

even in this beleaguered period this trust has shown a remarkable capital growth of 61.0%, and our Investment Managers continue to believe that smaller companies have good prospects for long term growth.

The Recovery Trust was launched in the summer of 1981 and has as its investment philosophy the belief that the recession is levelling out and that now is the time to take advantage of this opportunity by investing in companies that show potential for future growth.

The Japanese & Pacific Growth Trust began life at the end of 1981. It concentrates on investment in the Pacific basin where Far Eastern expertise in high technology and mass production has had such a profound effect on, not only our lives, but the economy of the world in general. The trust aims to take advantage of the proven record of the Japan & Pacific basin as an investment market.

THE FUTURE

The short term performance of these trusts has been variable, but what the trusts all have in common is a single-minded commitment to differing investment areas and a solid foundation in realism. This realism means a commitment to the long term and lasting elements in the world economy. And you could find no sounder and more skilful advice on this commitment than through NatWest Unit Trust Managers.

HOW TO INVEST NOW

Simply fill in the coupon below, or alternatively take it to any branch of National Westminster Bank. The minimum investment is £500.

The unit price will be determined as that prevailing on the day of receipt of application. Distribution of income from units may be re-invested in these trusts. In view of the specialised nature of these trusts which aim primarily

for capital appreciation, the Managers strongly recommend to investors that income distributions should be automatically re-invested in the purchase of further units.

You should remember that the price of units and the income from them can go down as well as up.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Applications will not be acknowledged but certificates will be issued within 42 days.

The current offer and bid prices and estimated gross yield of the trusts will be published daily in the Financial Times.

Distributions of net income will be made half yearly for each trust as follows:

N.American—18 June and 18 December (As at 31/5 the offer price of units was 53.1p giving a gross yield of 50.83%—50.84% net.)

Smaller Companies—30 March and 30 September (As at 31/5 the offer price of units was 50.5p giving a gross yield of 53.81%—53.82% net.)

Recovery—28 February and 28 August (As at 31/5 the offer price of units was 51.8p giving a gross yield of 53.59%—53.59% net.)

Japanese & Pacific—20 April and 20 October (As at 31/5 the offer price of units was 44.8p giving a gross yield of 51.94%—51.94% net.)

For investments made now the first distribution will be 20 October.

If you wish, you can buy units through your own bank, stockbroker, solicitor or accountant.

Recommendation is possible to qualified agents and rates are available on request. The offer price of units includes an initial charge of 9%.

Thereafter a half yearly charge of 0.75% plus VAT of the value of the Trust is deducted from the gross income of the Trust to cover administration costs, although the Trust Deed permits this to be increased to 0.75%+VAT. To sell units simply return your certificate(s) duly endorsed and you will receive the cash value within 10 days, based on the bid price ruling on the day of receipt.

The management company is National Westminster Unit Trust Managers Limited.

National Westminster Unit Trust Managers Limited is a member of the Unit Trust Association, Investment Managers' Company Bank Limited, (I.B. Share). The trust is Regulated by the Securities and Investments Board. This is a "wider range" trustee investment. This offer is not available to residents of the Republic of Ireland.

National Westminster Specialist Trusts

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Telephone Enquiries: 01-606 6060, extension 1635.

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Smaller Companies Trust Recovery Trust Japanese & Pacific Growth Trust at the price prevailing on day of receipt of application.

If we enclose my/our remittance payable to National Westminster Unit Trust Managers Limited.

Surname Mr/Ms/Miss

First Name(s)

Address

Postcode

I am/we are over the age of 18.

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Date

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PERSONAL FINANCIAL PLANNING III

Constant eye on needs and means

FINANCIAL PLANNING, like life itself, is an ongoing happening, with the individual needing continually to revise and update his financial arrangements as his circumstances change. A former colleague summed up the situation admirably when, parodying Shakespeare, he described it as the "Seven Ages of the Investor."

There are, however, certain basic principles that need to be considered at all times and certain questions that need to be answered. They must be answered moreover in the correct order.

The individual first needs to consider why he is saving and to sort out his priorities. He needs to consider the financial requirements of his dependents should he die or become disabled. He needs to consider how much of his assets should be kept in cash to meet emergency bills and how much can be set aside for the future. Then he can see how far his resources go towards meeting these aims.

Only after he has thought this through should the individual consider how to invest and which investment vehicles to use, with particular emphasis on tax efficiency. All too often the investor takes out a savings plan because it has been sold to him or because it has been well advertised—and he thinks it will meet all his needs.

Following the natural progression from cradle to grave, the first consideration is financial planning for children. Their financial requirements, like life at this stage, are relatively uncomplicated.

If children have any income at all beyond their pocket money it usually comes from grandparents or other relatives. As an aside, such income from anyone other than the parent should be made under covenant so the child, through his parents, can reclaim the tax.

The reason for investment for the child is also simple—to accumulate a cash sum for use at some unspecified future date. Children have no one depend-

ing on them financially and thus can afford to take certain risks with their investments. They are not likely to want cash at a moment's notice, so investments can be a product whose value fluctuates. Finally, children usually do not pay tax.

These factors indicate investment in equities in a form that is tax-free—or at least where tax can be reclaimed. Unit trusts are the ideal vehicle providing the parent is prepared to go through the process of reclaiming tax. There are several schemes using life bonds, but these are not as tax-efficient as unit trusts, since tax paid by the life company cannot be reclaimed.

The next turning point comes when the individual starts work and acquires an income of his or her own. The immediate requirements are still straightforward, with no immediate financial dependents. But planning now needs to look to the future when the individual gets married and wants to buy a house. Now is the time to start saving for the deposit and the substantial sums needed to set up a home.

gage on his house. But once the first child is expected life cover requirements extend to providing family income. Resources are likely to be stretched, so the amount available for life cover is limited. Security is also necessary so that money is immediately available. This indicates term assurance and income benefit contracts.

Financial dependency increases as the family grows in numbers and the children grow up. But financial pressures tend to ease as the husband gets promotion and more money. Attention can now be given to saving type contracts, though at this stage the risk should be kept to the minimum.

But when the offspring cease to be a financial burden life cover requirements can be reduced and most of the resources can be concentrated on savings.

Now the individual can save for various luxuries—even consider a second home. But he also should start looking ahead to retirement.

The individual need for immediate cash is far less urgent. He can spread his investments over a wide range and if necessary put some of his assets into higher risk/reward ventures. The individual can roam over a wide range of investment opportunities free from previous restrictions. It is at this stage and to this type of investor that the alluring advertisements are aimed. He needs to consider the tax implications of savings vehicles very carefully indeed.

Pension planning is a complete subject in itself. Under the new state pension scheme most individuals can look forward to a decent pension when they retire. For the large majority pension planning is

done for them through the company scheme.

The big gap in pension planning is among the self-employed. But they are now able to get a wide range of expert advice and the only point that needs emphasising is that they should start their planning for retirement as early as possible.

As retirement approaches and the individual starts to accumulate assets he also needs to consider how to pass them on without benefiting the taxman. This becomes even more important when retirement is reached.

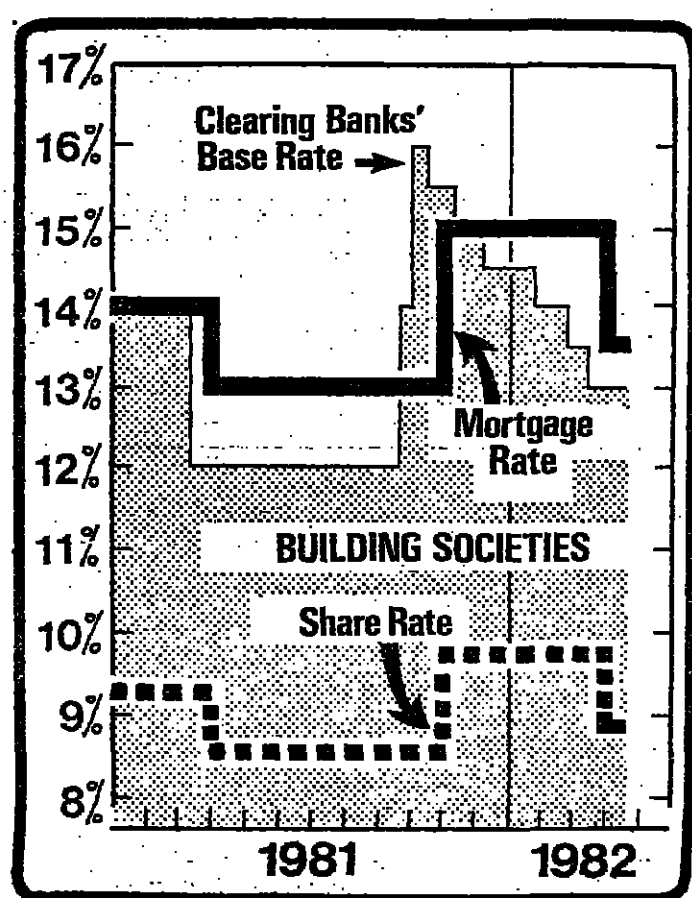
It represents another major turning point in a person's life. His earning power no longer is based on his ability to work. His financial dependency relates solely to his or her spouse. The house mortgage is paid off.

The requirements here are income to supplement the pension and a disposal of assets. If the individual continues to build up capital the main beneficiary will be the Government.

There are many ways of boosting income and again the investor needs to look very closely at the after-tax position.

But the bulk of the planning will be concentrated on schemes for passing assets to heirs without incurring a massive Capital Transfer Tax (CTT) liability. Fortunately this year's Budget has done much to alleviate the problem of CTT by indexing the thresholds.

One problem remains. What happens if the individual becomes incapable of looking after himself. The costs of private care are considerable. As yet no one has come up with a satisfactory solution. Yet sociologists regard the problem of the very elderly as the greatest facing future generations.



Planning over a lifetime

ERIC SHORT

The individual is likely to need his money in the space of a few years, so some kind of deposit savings where the money is easily accessible is indicated. In addition the individual is now paying tax. There are a variety of schemes available from banks and building societies. The investor in making his choice needs to look at the after-tax return, not the gross or grossed-up interest rate being displayed.

Marriage represents a major turning point in the life of the individual and has considerable repercussions on his financial planning. For the first time he acquires financial responsibilities and thus needs to consider what happens should anything unforeseen happen to him. This in turn means considering taking out life assurance, not as a savings vehicle but for life cover.

At the outset the individual needs cover against the mort-

The banks' thrust into the mortgage market

THE HOUSE-BUYING scene is changing. No longer can the new home purchaser rely on the particularly favourable recent swings of the housing cycle to carry the investment—usually the largest in an individual's lifetime—into the safety of significant long-term capital gains. Housing prices are flat, or at least sluggish, in comparison with some of the heady advances of the last decade. It pays more than ever to put one's mortgage base on the best possible footing.

While recession is taking the heat out of house prices, the Government has decided, either by neglect or default, to remove or to continue to limit some of the house ownerships most enviable advantages.

True, the threshold of each band of stamp duty went up by £5,000 in the Budget but the ceiling of tax relief remained obstinately stuck at £25,000 borrowings. That limit, as successive administrations have plainly showed, is not about to shift in the foreseeable future.

But one Inland Revenue proposal, enshrined in the Finance Bill, looks set to increase the cost of mortgage repayment, particularly in the early phases of the term.

From next April onwards the Revenue will switch the administrative burden of providing interest relief to the lender. At present, mortgage payments are made at the gross level, with the appropriate relief deducted from tax under the PAYE system.

Now, however, mortgage repayments are to be paid net of 10% of the standard rate, something which in the first instance is going to make life rather more complicated for higher rate payers.

But the building societies have decided that they will spread the burden of interest payment more evenly over the term of the loan. That sounds quite equitable but it will not help the first time buyer who is usually borrowing the highest proportion of the cost of a home and it must diminish one of the principal reasons for electing for a repayment rather than an endowment mortgage.

One of the major changes in the housing market over the past 20 months or so has been the emergence of an important new force in the provision of mortgage finance. The clearing banks have arrived in a big way and are thought to have captured some 40 per cent of new lending last year.

The scene is currently chang-

ing extraordinarily fast and what today looks to be the best mortgage buy may be shouldered back into the ranks of the also-rans as new schemes come on offer.

But in very general terms the clearers were competing very successfully on price and availability from outset. Differential rate finance was an unknown in banking parlours and every branch manager had access to very large sums indeed.

The building societies have perforce responded, though with

Buying a house

RAY MAUGHAN

varying degrees of success. Differential rates are disappearing, new savings vehicles have been devised to combat the threat among other things of National Savings; mortgage funds seem to be readily available.

It is impossible to paint the picture with anything other than a broad brush but as a general rule the societies which are determined to retain an aggressive stance in the major rationalisation movement as a whole are coming. They are trying hard to stay in the mainstream of innovation.

It may be inevitable to pick out one or two schemes in isolation while so many others must be still on the drawing board but Barclays' "Getting Married" proposals are in the forefront of the clearers' attack on the societies' traditional preserve in the first-time buyer market.

Put briefly, the bank's guaranteed mortgage scheme qualifies anybody saving at least £1,000 in one year for a mortgage of ten times the sum saved, with interest at 2 per cent over the deposit rate on savings.

There are a lot of extras thrown in: valuations up to a maximum of £100 will be paid, discounts on BUPA are offered—as well as a bottle of champagne to celebrate the couple's first day in their new home. The scheme is conditional, naturally, on transferring both spouses' current accounts to Barclays.

"Getting Married" is by no means the end of the story for first-time buyers. Bristol and West Building Society is now advancing 100 per cent loans to first-time buyers seeking up to £25,000. The society requires the borrower to establish "an-

cial credibility" by saving up to 10 per cent of the purchase price but these funds can then be used to pay for the host of other bills associated with a first home.

Bristol and West also grants 93 per cent loans on homes valued up to £40,000 and offers a quarter point discount on mortgage rates for the first five years to first-time buyers borrowing up to £15,000.

Lloyds Bank, the first clearer into the mortgage field in a big way and arguably the most innovative, also offers 100 per cent mortgages and has set the ceiling at £30,000.

As in all forms of lending, however, the stated mortgage rate is lower than the real rate. The annual percentage rate—or APR—is the amount of interest payable as a percentage of the outstanding sum coupled with any fees charged by the lending institution. It is important to establish whether the lender is charging interest on a reducing balance throughout the year or whether the interest is calculated for the whole year and the amount outstanding on Day 1.

At the moment it looks as though Lloyds' real rate of 14.4 per cent (on a flat rate of 13.5 per cent) is lower than the rest of the field, which is charging 14.5 per cent as an annual percentage rate. Only the Co-operative Bank is in the same rank as Lloyds but it does charge more for loans over £30,000.

Lloyds won this slight advantage because it was the last lender to alter its charges in the last round of mortgage rate cutting. The other three clearing banks all levy some settling-up charge at the moment and both Barclays and Midland have set a flat rate of 13.75 per cent.

But it is important as a first-time buyer to remember that these rates are not fixed in perpetuity. Mortgage rates, as all home owners know too well, can be as changeable as the weather—although they always seem to move far too slowly when the pundits are agreed that interest rates generally are coming down.

The commitment fee may change, or be eliminated, if one lender ever feels that his market position is threatened. The essential point to determine when fine-tuning comparative mortgage payments is whether the rate is fixed on a reducing balance, month by month, or on the sum outstanding at the beginning of each year. For the moment all the clearers except National Westminster adopt the first method and the building societies, with one or two exceptions, the latter.

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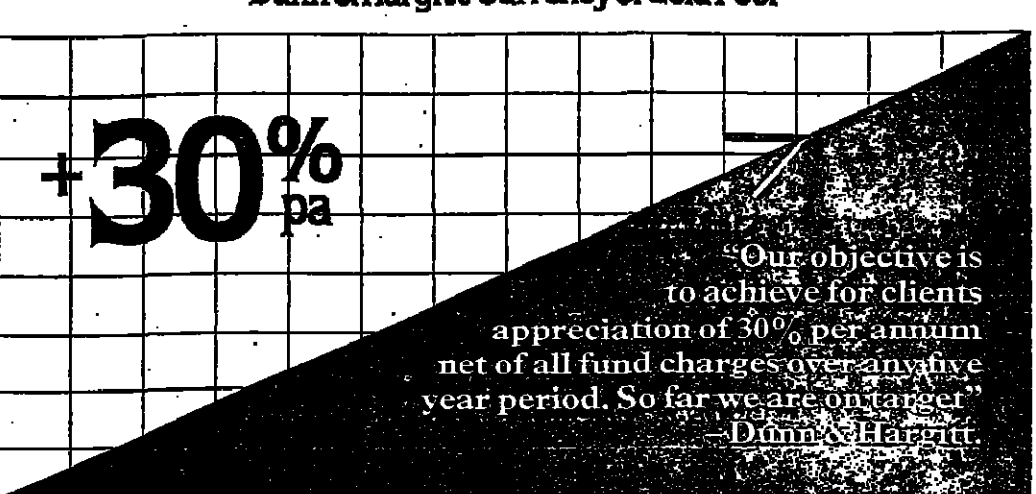
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ONE DOMINANT theme in personal financial planning is the need to maintain the value in real terms of the capital being built up. The investments have to be fully protected against the eroding effects of inflation.

There are several types of investment which are claimed will match or even outperform inflation over the long term, especially investments that are backed by real assets like equities and property. But some investors remember how such investments failed to make good those claims in the mid-1970s when inflation soared past the 20 per cent level. Such investors want investments that guarantee to match inflation; ie, they require index-linked investments.

But only the Government can effectively guarantee index-linked investments, since it alone is in a position to undertake the open-ended financial commitment that index-linking can raise the necessary finance through taxation and in the final resort make use of the printing presses to print the necessary money.

The introduction of index-linked investments in the UK came late, however, and the development of contracts has been cautious. Until last year's Budget it was confined to just two National Savings products with very low investment limits.

The first product was the Index-Linked National Savings Certificate, still affectionately known as Granny Bonds because at the launch in June 1975 they were only available to persons who had reached State pension age. The certificates are lump sum investments over a five-year period where the original capital is revalued each month in line with the retail price index.

Thus £1,000 invested in June 1975 has now reached £1,245.44 in April 1982—an impressive 13.9 per cent annual growth that is completely tax-free.

But although the present Government has progressively raised the investment limits and made the certificates available to everyone, the present limit of £5,000 per person means that index-linked National Savings certificates have only a small, though vital, role in portfolio planning.

The second product, launched in July 1975, is the index-linked Save-As-You-Earn contract—a regular savings contract over a five-year period. This enables investors aged 16 or over to set aside regular amounts, with

Index-linked
investment

ERIC SHORT

each payment being revalued in line with the RPI from the time it is paid.

Again, the amounts that can be put away are small. Originally the limit was £20 per month per person but this has been raised to £50.

At the end of the five-year period investors can leave the accumulated capital for another two years. With the seven-year period coming up in July the Department of National Savings has announced that the capital sum can be left until further notice, with its value increasing every three months in line with the RPI.

Thus these two products are for the small saver. An investor who took out an SAYE contract in July 1975 paying the then maximum savings of £20 a month can expect this to have grown to £2,100 by July 1982. The new maximum saving is £50 a month but it is still a small savings product.

But there are other features of these two contracts. They are both simply preserving capital values and the real rate of growth is virtually nil. There

are penalties for early cash-in. The Granny Bonds pay a bonus at the end of five years of 4 per cent of the original capital. The SAYE pays a bonus of two months' payment after seven years. In both cases the return does very little more than maintain the status quo. Again, many investors need contracts that provide income which can be guaranteed to keep its real value against inflation.

These National Savings contracts by themselves do very little to help the investor seeking to build up his portfolio or the self-employed endeavouring to provide a pension. Conditions changed for these investors when last year the index-gifts were issued by the Government and extended in this year's Budget when such gifts were made available to all investors instead of just pension funds as originally envisaged.

These index-linked gifts revalue both the interest payments and the ultimate capital repayment in line with RPI movements. Moreover, because the stocks are dealt on the Stock Exchange the price paid by investors varies with market conditions. Not only does he get a real rate of return on his investment, depending on the price paid for the stock; he can actively trade in the stocks.

The net yields available on the shortest of the four stocks—Treasury 2 per cent 1988—are shown on the accompanying table. Investors should note that if they pay too high a price for the stock they could end up with a negative real rate of return.

The launch of these index-linked stocks has added a further dimension to portfolio planning. Investors now have to compare the merits of index-linked gifts with fixed-interest gifts and also with equity-type investments.

In each case the investor primarily has to make a decision on the likely trend of in-

flation—and not over the next few months but over a period of years. This possibly involves a much closer study than hitherto of political considerations and the consequences for inflation. He has to look behind the ritual lip service made by politicians about controlling inflation and see whether the Government is likely to take positive measures to try and control it.

In comparing gifts the investors can make a comparison of the fixed-interest yield with the expected inflation rate over the term of the contract. But for a complete comparison he should assess the ultimate capital accumulation on the fixed-interest stock, assuming a certain rate for reinvesting the interest payments, with the ultimate capital sum on the index-gifts at various inflation rate assumptions.

Some commentators seem to favour fixed-interest gifts simply because yields at present are higher than the anticipated short-term inflation rates. An exercise like that described above will show that the scope for profit should the predictions turn out correct is limited, while the scope for loss should inflation start climbing again is considerable. It would appear far too early to start gambling on inflation rates.

The choice between index-gifts and equities or property is more difficult. The investor

TREASURY 2% 1988 — NET REAL YIELDS

	(per cent)				
	Tax rate per cent				
	Nil	30	45	60	75
Price					
97½	2.49	1.88	1.58	1.28	0.98
100	2.00	1.40	1.10	0.80	0.50
102	1.65	1.06	0.76	0.46	0.17
105	1.14	0.55	0.26	-0.03	-0.32

Source: Buckmaster and Moore

selects index-linked gifts if he wants a guarantee to match inflation as his investment priority ahead of the prospects of real growth. The growth on index-gifts is solely the yield on the stocks at the time of purchase.

The other decision for the investor is whether he buys index-linked gifts direct or by means of a life assurance bond. Life companies have been actively promoting index-linked gift funds following this year's Budget announcement. But the charges made by the life company eat into the overall yield.

The self-employed saving for their pension have to use life company pension contracts in order to obtain the full tax concessions. Now they can

invest in a fund that ensures that their contributions will grow ahead of inflation.

But when it comes to paying an index-linked pension life companies are being cautious in the extreme. To date only Target Life is prepared to guarantee pensions that increase with the RPI, while Vanbrugh Life will allow pensions to be linked to its index-linked gift fund.

The problem with index-linked pensions is that they have to be paid for. A man aged 65 can buy a level pension from Target of £1,508 per annum for each £10,000 of cash accumulated, while the index pension starts at £723. The choice between a level and an index-linked pension again relates to future inflationary expectations plus the health of the investor at retirement.

Resolving the traumas
of severance

SOME USEFUL PAMPHLETS

Title	Pamphlet number	Available from:
There's money off rent	—	Local Rates Office or Citizens' Advice Bureau
How to pay less rates	—	"
Catalogue of social security benefits	NI 146	Social Security
Unemployment benefits	NI 12	"
Social security benefit rates	NI 196	"
Earnings-related benefit	NI 155A	"
Your retirement pension	NP 32	"
Retirement benefits for married women	NP 52B	"

Redundancy

CARLA RAPOPORT

amount of tax rebate will be issued. But the later the claim is filed, the larger the first tax rebate payment, in most cases, will be.

Most building societies will allow a borrower to defer repayment of the capital portion of a mortgage if the borrower has been made redundant. As long as interest payments are kept up, most societies will grant a breathing space to the borrower until another job is in sight.

For those considering the purchase of a house but fear the prospect of redundancy, help has recently been offered by the National Association of Estate Agents. Under a new scheme a purchaser can buy insurance to cover mortgage payments for two years following the date of purchase. The insurance costs £38 and can be renewed following the initial two-year period. The association has 1,000 member firms and the deal is offered through its specialist insurance advisers, Brian Ragimbeau Advisory Services.

Once the immediate problems of day-to-day living are sorted out, the redundant executive must face the question of how much money and what option to choose on pension arrangements. The choices are many but are best defined by considering the employee's age and financial commitments.

MWP, a personal financial

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

counselling service set up by Morgan Grenfell, Withers Faber and PA Management Consultants, has counselled hundreds of redundant executives throughout Britain. Mr Richard Perryer, who specialises in this field, says that in a typical case, the executive is usually 50, with some seniority, and is likely to receive a £25,000 settlement with an £8,000 a year pension.

Mr Perryer counsels such an individual to compute £2,000 a year of his pension into a lump sum, which could work out to about £18,000. Most companies offer these conversion options, which he says allows the executive more flexibility in investment. As most pension plans are not index-linked, he says it is best to put the greater amount of capital into investments which generally appreciate in line with inflation.

With the conversion option taken up, the individual in this case has £43,000 to invest, as opposed to £25,000. Each investment plan must conform to the individual's needs but in general MWP advises that a small proportion be invested in short-term funds which can be easily liquidated; a larger amount in middle-term securities like gilts or gilt funds and the bulk of the money in long-term investments which have a good record of keeping up with inflation.

Counsellors disagree on the best long-term investment and as there are literally thousands of financial advisors in Britain, it is best to ask advice from at least a few sources before deciding on the best course. Even investing in building societies requires some shopping.

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Bonus 2
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Access

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Nationwide
Building Society



الحكمان الأول

PERSONAL FINANCIAL PLANNING V

Commitment to unlimited liability

LORDS AND LADIES, lawyers, judges, politicians, businessmen, financiers, pop singers, television personalities, executives of insurance brokers and insurance companies, sportsmen and even the odd well-heeled journalist are all represented at the City of London's unique commercial club, Lloyd's and its insurance market.

Total membership of Lloyd's stands at 20,144. It includes 2,751 overseas members. There are 3,890 women members. Overseas membership was introduced in 1968; women were first admitted in 1970 as part of a drive by Lloyd's to strengthen and expand its membership.

Lloyd's relies on the pledged capital of its essentially private membership to allow the market to function. Around 80 per cent of Lloyd's members do not work in the market and may be regarded as "armchair" underwriters. They play a role similar to that of shareholders in public companies.

But unlike shareholders in a public company their commitment is much greater. All members joining Lloyd's have to accept the principle of unlimited liability. In return for pledging their wealth to Lloyd's its members receive a share of the underwriting profits. But by the same token they have to meet their share of any underwriting losses. The principle of unlimited liability means that all members of Lloyd's are liable to the full extent of their wealth to meet their share of any underwriting losses.

Although Lloyd's has been rocked by a wave of scandals and other controversies in the last four years or so, there is little sign that the troubles have deterred new members from coming forward. In fact, more members are coming forward than Lloyd's needs. Too much capacity, in the form of new members, is chasing insurance business which is not growing at the same rate.

New members usually have to demonstrate that they have wealth of £100,000. If a potential member is resident in the UK, however, he can be admitted on a show of wealth of as little as £50,000.

All members joining Lloyd's have to pass a means test. Assets which currently qualify for means test purposes are divided into two main groups. Assets which must constitute not less than 60 per cent of the means test.

These are:

- Stock exchange quoted securities.

- Cash at bank or building society.

- Surrender value of life policies.

- Absolute reversionary interest in trusts at market value calculated on an actuarial basis.

- Bank guarantees or letters of credit on any of an applicant's assets.

- Gold at 70 per cent of its market value, subject to certain conditions.

- Assets which must not exceed 40 per cent of the means test.

- Homes, other than the candidate's principal residence, are permitted at market valuation, less any outstanding mortgage or loan.

- All commercial property at its market value, less any outstanding mortgage or loan.

- Farmland at its market value (excluding the value of the house if the house is the principal residence) less any outstanding mortgage or loan.

- Leasehold property, subject to certain conditions.

- The advantages of becoming a Lloyd's underwriter are as follows:

- Income. Membership of Lloyd's enables an individual to obtain three returns on his capital rather than one:

- (i) the normal investment income and capital gains arising on any deposited investments are received by a member;

- (ii) membership of one or more syndicates, into which all members of Lloyd's are grouped, entitles the member to share in any profits resulting from the excess of insurance premiums received less claims, reinsurance and expenses;

- (iii) before the settlement of any resulting claims or payment of profit to members the syndicate will invest the premium income. This produces additional investment income and capital gains which are shared

among the members of the underwriting syndicate.

- Capital appreciation. Most members at Lloyd's are high rate taxpayers (up to 98 per cent for 1978-79 and 75 per cent for later years) and syndicates at Lloyd's often have a policy for investment of the premium income which within permitted (and regulated) limits produces a high level of capital appreciation rather than interest. The tax is thus limited to the maximum 30 per cent applicable to capital gains. Much of the investment may be in British government securities which, if held for more than 12 months are free of capital gains tax.

- Delay in paying tax on underwriting profits. Because Lloyd's uses a three-year accounting method, not closing its books until the end of a three year accounting period, the books of a syndicate relating to a calendar year are not closed until two years after the end of that year. The tax on the profits for the calendar year is payable as follows:

- (i) basic rate tax and capital gains tax are payable 12 months after the date of closing the books, ie three years after the accounting date; and

- (ii) higher rates tax and investment income surcharge are payable 18 months after the date of closing the books, ie three and a half years after the accounting date.

The underwriting member with a £200,000 premium limit is able to apply his underwriting capacity across a range of syndicates. His underwriting agent may decide that he should underwrite up to £50,000 of business on a marine syndicate, up to £50,000 on an aviation syndicate, up to £20,000 on a non-marine syndicate, £40,000 on another non-marine syndicate, another up to £20,000 on a motor syndicate and up to £20,000 on another motor syndicate. The aggregate of his premium allocation in this case totals the entirety of

his premium income limit at Lloyd's.

Members of Lloyd's do not usually underwrite to the full extent of their premium limits.

Members are also required to lodge deposits with Lloyd's and this represents part of the security underlying the Lloyd's insurance policy. The deposit deposited.

also determines how much business may be transacted on a member's behalf. Residents in the UK will have to pay 25 per cent of premium income as a deposit, which is used solely to meet underwriting liabilities. But they can expect to receive the income from the funds

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The underwriting room at Lloyd's

Traumas of severance

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

around as building society rates vary significantly. It's best to check if fees are charged for financial advice or if the advisers are linked to one

financial institution. Insurance brokers, for example, are keen to promote guaranteed income bonds as they reap a commission on what they sell.

Investing in a new business is, of course, an attractive option for a younger executive without heavy financial commitments. Businesses are springing up with the aid of redundancy money and recent small business incentives have been put in place to encourage such endeavours. Most banks and financial institutions have small business sections to give advice.

Perhaps those most suitable for starting up on their own are the lucky few who have received a golden handshake. The latter, usually defined as a redundancy settlement over £25,000, has raised the ire of politicians, however, and the tax liability on these bonuses has recently been increased. As of this month sums over £75,000 will be fully liable to tax. The first £25,000 of any payment will remain exempt from tax and the next £25,000 will incur a 50 per cent tax reduction. Between £50,000 and £75,000, 25 per cent will be knocked off the regular tax liability, but any excess over £75,000 will be liable to the full weight of tax.

For most, however, the challenge will be to manage significantly smaller sums in a way that will ease the trauma of redundancy.

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PERSONAL FINANCIAL PLANNING VI

Family sacrifices to meet an expensive preference

MANY PARENTS still wish to have their children educated in the private sector. The reasons are many and varied, but for most families, there is a primary need to consider the financial aspects very carefully. Private education is very expensive and likely to remain so. Parents will find that they need to make full use of all their financial resources, both capital and income, and meeting the fees will occupy a major planning role in their overall financial strategy.

Some idea of the costs involved can be seen from the annual survey of schools fees made by the Independent Schools Information Service (ISIS). Its latest survey is due next week and is awaited with interest. It could well show that fees are still rising faster than the rate of inflation.

Boarding fees at major boys' schools could average around £1,100 a term and day boy fees around £850 a term. The variations either side of these averages are considerable. Fees at leading girls' schools are somewhat lower — averaging £950 a term for boarders and £510 a term for day pupils.

For many families there is little option but to meet fees out of current income. The periodic surveys made by two leading schools fee specialists — C. Howard and Partners and School Fees Insurance Agency — both show the extent of sacrifices made by families in order to meet the rising school fee bills.

Family income is boosted in a number of ways. The latest C. Howard survey showed that in one family out of five the wife went out to work solely to meet as much of the bill as

possible. In many cases the husband did a second job and the family took in lodgers. Family expenditure was curtailed by cutting out holidays, limiting entertainment, using a smaller car and so on. The details shown in these surveys highlight the need for parents to try and save ahead to meet the fees coming some time in the future. The earlier the start the more that can be set aside and the ultimate financial burden made easier when the child does start school. Ideally one could start when the child is born, assuming the decision on private education has already been made.

Since fees rise with inflation the investor needs to save in contracts that also keep pace with inflation. For many years equity and property investment were supposed to do that since investment was in real assets. Now the Government has helped the parent by making available a variety of savings contracts that offer returns linked to the Retail Price Index.

Besides Index-Linked National Savings Certificates, still affectionately known as Granny Bonds, and index-linked SAYE contracts, investors can now invest in index-linked gilts, either direct or through a life fund investing in the stocks.

If parents start saving at least 10 years before fees are due then they can use regular saving life assurance contracts. These entitle them to the tax credit available on the premiums paid — at present 17.6 per cent of premiums paid — up to the limits of £1,500 a year or one-sixth of annual income whichever is the greater. This is the only means by which a parent can get financial help from the Government in meet-

ing the school fee bill. In addition the ultimate payout on the contract is free of taxes.

There are a variety of methods that life contracts can be combined so that money is available when the fees are due.

Unit-linked contracts provide the investor with complete flexibility on cash-in and by investing in the index-gilt funds he has the guarantee that his savings will rise in line with inflation. If the parent links to some other type of funds, such as equity or property, then there is the danger that the unit price may be depressed at the time of cash-in to meet the fees. In such cases switching into cash must be considered.

School fees

ERIC SHORT

If a parent prefers to use traditional with-profits life contracts then he can overcome the relative inflexibility by taking out a series of policies in echelon, with each maturing in succession as each annual fee bill becomes due.

But more important than the type of contract used is the actual amount that parents can afford to put aside each year. In almost all cases they can only afford a comparatively small amount at the outset but can increase the payments because of inflation and promotion increases. There are several methods of designing plans to allow for this low start, including taking out convertible term assurances.

In addition original plans need to be periodically reviewed

and topped-up as the financial circumstances of the family improve.

Parents need expert advice from companies specialising in the school fee planning area. The role of the specialist is growing and there are a number operating in this field. The hallmark of a specialist is the plan designed taking into account the full family circumstances.

It needs to be emphasised that it is very unlikely that parents will be able to meet the full cost of school fees solely by savings in advance. But they should regard the savings as meeting a substantial part and easing the ultimate burden on income.

Parents also need to consider using any capital resources available. There are several schemes from the specialists which enable the parent to invest in a tax-efficient manner any cash sums to hand. But now parents should give more consideration to investing in index-linked gilts. A separate article in this survey discusses fully the implications of indexed investments.

Expatriates are more likely to want their children educated back in the UK and are usually in a better financial position to save substantial sums towards the fee bills. They have the option of using offshore funds as savings vehicles, with their attendant tax advantages. Surprisingly, little use is made of offshore funds and savings contracts by the UK school fee specialists.

The family's most valuable capital asset is its house. C. Howard has launched a scheme under which the parent can take a second mortgage on his house, thus unlocking the capital value.



Westminster School, London, where the pupil intake nowadays includes girls at 6th Form level

But this scheme needs to be used carefully after due consideration because of the high interest rates charged — with no tax relief.

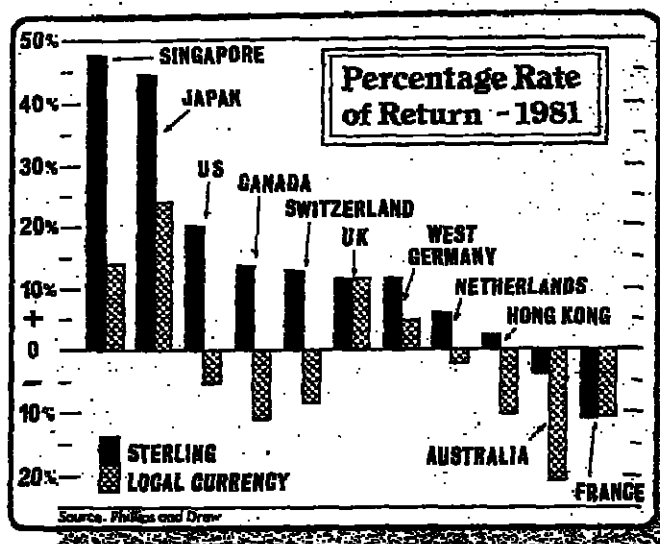
In the days when tax relief was available on all loan interest the most common method of paying fees was to borrow the fees as they became due and repay the loans well after the child had finished education — schemes known as educate-now-pay-later. These schemes are reappearing for the self-employed and executives under loan facilities on personal pension and executive pension contracts.

There are several versions of loanback. The most common from the clearing banks is to lend a multiple of the annual premium on the pension policy — say 15 or even 21 times the premium. The borrower need only pay the interest and the loan is repaid from the cash sum available at retirement. The tax relief comes not on the premiums at the investor's top rate.

In many families financial help towards payment of fees is made by grandparents or

other members of the family. If such payments are made out of income, then by doing it under covenant to the child income tax can be reclaimed. If payments are made out of capital, then full use needs to be made of the exemptions to minimise the Capital Transfer Tax liability.

Finally, the schools themselves can often help out through scholarships and grants. Many of them have been stepping up their fundraising activities to provide the resources for such grants as well as for the time-honoured method of raising funds for capital or refurbishing projects. Details of this and general methods of planning for fees, including a list of advisers can be obtained from two leaflets issued by ISIS. These can be obtained from Mrs P. D. Jones, Independent Schools Information Service, 26 Caxton Street, London SW1H 0RG.



Foreign securities still a favourite

IT IS two and a half years since the demise of UK exchange controls and meanwhile the initial sprint for exposure to overseas markets has slowed to a steady trot. But among both private and institutional investors there has not yet been much sign of disenchantment with overseas securities markets.

On the face of it this may seem surprising. In local currency terms the UK was an exceptionally good home for funds last year. Of the major equity markets, for example, only Japan's outpaced the rise in UK share values. Elsewhere the potential for loss was often alarming. The natural resource markets, Australia in particular, went sharply off the boil. The Paris Bourse was thrown into reverse following the election victory of President Mitterrand. Hong Kong failed to maintain the momentum of the late 1970s and even the U.S. was unable to capitalise on the pro-business leanings of President Reagan.

The pattern has been little different so far this year. The main resource markets have remained in free fall and investors have suffered some painful knocks even in Tokyo. The FT 30-share Index has, meanwhile, added roughly 10 per cent since Christmas.

In sterling terms, however, the picture looked a good deal different and highlighted the very great importance of currency movements in overall returns. Sterling dropped 8 per cent in its trade-weighted index last year and has fallen further, at least against the dollar, so far this year.

For most private investors the simplest way of gaining an exposure to overseas equity markets is through the unit trust movement. The fashion for foreign investment has spawned a welter of trusts specialising either in particular markets or in specific sectors, such as natural resources or technology.

So far this year UK trusts have generally been ahead of the pack but on a longer view the foreign vehicles have often proved a better bet. The advantage of the unit trust is

its comparatively low management cost, a result of its ability to deal in bulk, together with the simplicity of transactions. The names and addresses of all the management groups, together with the funds on offer and their prices, are published in the Financial Times. Units can be purchased directly from the managers or through an agent.

Investment trusts, the closed-end funds, are currently less in favour. Not only do they traditionally trade at substantial — and widening — discounts to their net asset value; they often

International investment

JOHN MAKINSON

lack the specialist appeal of their unlisted counterparts. Increasingly, investment trusts operating in foreign markets are being converted into unit trusts.

The alternative to investment through a managed vehicle is direct participation in the market. Overseas this can often prove a time-consuming and costly exercise. Besides the frequent problem of paying double commissions (to a London and to a local broker), tax on income is sometimes a through the labourious process of double taxation agreements.

In one case, West Germany, tax credits on dividends are paid only to resident investors. A unit trust can often avoid the settlement delays common in some markets such as Singapore and can also negotiate foreign exchange transactions more efficiently.

Mr Michael Beaumont, a partner of London stock-brokers Griesvenor Grant, says he generally encourages clients to invest through unit trusts rather than directly in volatile markets, however, where a rapid price movement can make the handling costs of direct purchase less significant. Individual equities are recom-

mended. Hong Kong is an obvious example.

Equally, some markets have not yet been thoroughly researched by unit or investment trusts. Griesvenor Grant, for example, has actively recommended purchases in the Scandinavian markets.

But in general direct investment will generally be of most interest to an individual with £100,000 or more to spend. In such cases, British merchant banks and Swiss banks will be glad to help.

These banks generally run their own in-house trusts (access to which is open to all) and will also manage funds, on a discretionary or advisory basis, for a set commission fee.

Mr David Jack, a senior vice-president of Swiss bankers Julius Baer, says that the level of foreign investment by private UK investors is holding up well. He ascribes this in part to the growing concern that exchange controls will be reintroduced, in some form, after the next election.

For a typical sterling-based client Julius Baer is currently recommending the following asset mix: 40 per cent in bonds; 10 per cent in convertible bonds; 35 per cent in equities; 15 per cent in cash and short-term investments. The currency mix would be weighted towards sterling (35 per cent), followed by U.S. dollars (25 per cent), Swiss francs (15 per cent), Deutsche marks (15 per cent) and Japanese yen (10 per cent).

This kind of mix is not often grasped by private UK investors. Despite the absence of exchange controls there remains a traditional loyalty to the UK. Moreover, the capital gains tax, which is crystallised by switching into a foreign market, remains a powerful deterrent. In some markets, such as that in Eurodollar bonds, the cost of dealing in small amounts and the narrow liquidity are inhibiting in themselves.

But the UK private investor is by any standard an internationally-minded individual. It is no coincidence that over 60 foreign companies have obtained a listing on the London stock market since exchange controls were abandoned.

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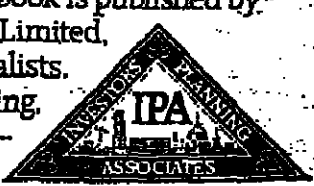
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LEISURE

Spring in the Sierras

WHATEVER the calendar says, Easter is the psychological start to Spring. The city is still no one seems to have told Mother Nature this. She has a capricious habit of surprising the Easter bunnies and over-optimistic travellers with a reminder that winter has not yet departed the stage.

A recent few days in California have drummed home the point. Plans to make for the hills were destroyed by a deluge of snow. The Lake Tahoe area, shared by California and Nevada, was getting up to four feet of snow a day. Huge American trucks were parked in their hundreds on the approach roads to the high Sierras, which cut off the prosperous society of the American Pacific West from supplies from the East. Avalanches buried buildings and brought death to skiers. Tahoe was only accessible by air.

For the casinos of Reno it was both bad news and good. It meant that few new visitors were even bothering to attempt



Yosemite National Park

must make the most of the short period when mountains are hospitable. One might add cynically that the same things apply to hotels and restaurants, which start the season fresh and eager before the real summer rush.

The shortness of the season has its disadvantages, however. Some mountain areas—with the notable exceptions of Austria, Switzerland and those regions of the U.S. which are ski as well as summer resorts—are not well endowed with good accommodation or restaurants. And, in April and May, you may find some places closed.

The art of mountain visiting—and for me that means picnics and horseback riding rather than crampons and giddy ascents—is to slip into the hills in the magic time between winter's end and summer's hordes. Usually that means May or June.

The mountains of the American West are ideal for anyone wishing to sample this magic. Not only are they accessible in a way that few vast mountain areas are but they are also largely untamed. You may drive in on a four-lane highway, but within minutes you can be off on a walk in the company of marmots and brown bears, rosy finches and water ouzels. I had never realised just how loud a woodpecker could be until one decided on a 5 am foray on a tree outside my bedroom window in the Oregon Cascades last week.

The Cascades, the Sierra Nevada (which in spite of its name is almost entirely in California) and the Rockies themselves are relatively new ground, and as Mt. St. Helens has so graphically demonstrated, can

produce the occasional surprise. On Mt. Bachelor in Central Oregon, for example, skiers have to make neat turns from time to time to avoid the deep holes in the snow through which the still-breathing volcano belows vents its steam.

The human history is short, too. The Oregon Trail, which brought settlers and gold miners from the east, was still the main artery of the area only 140 years ago. The staggering sights of Yosemite in the Sierra Nevada were first chronicled by white visitors in the 1830s and 1840s but the reports they brought back were so tempting that even by 1855 local tourist statistics show that there were 42 visitors to the valley. By the turn of the century the figure had grown to 10,000 annually.

What is astonishing is that even with the vastly larger numbers that now go into the mountain areas it is still remarkably easy to find wilderness and solitude.

It is true that the more spectacular regions—Yosemite itself, the Lake Tahoe area and even the Mother Lode country of the western Sierras—can be a touch bumper-to-bumper at holiday times. But the crowds are worth braving for the views, and then you can be off on your own.

Lake Tahoe sits at the centre of the Sierra Nevada. It is about the same size as Geneva's Lake Lemán and is at a spectacular 6,230 feet above sea level. In the summer the ski lifts of local resorts take summer visitors up a further 2,000 feet for views of both the mountains and the lakes. At that height sunbathing comes easy, and it is perhaps unfortunate that the lake itself is fully ringed by

a tarmac road, and that often this road is fringed by the detritus of modern tourism.

However, the lakeside also offers juniper and dogwood, aspen and ponderosa, cedar and cottonwood, all in abundance.

It is a delight for the more energetic visitor to discover that Americans, like their European counterparts, are tied by some invisible string to their automobiles. Wander a little way from the tyre worn track and there are rewards in abundance.

Mountains tend to keep their best secrets to themselves. The meadow that looks green from a car window can be found, on closer examination, to be a kaleidoscopic array of tiny flowers. Larkspur and wild onion, the colourful paintbrush and gentian abound in easily reached hill pasture. Venture higher and you come into the world of the alpine heathers.

The pangs of appetite were sparked only a couple of weeks ago when my horse ventured into a glade so rich with the smell of rosemary that any passing lamb would have been in immediate danger of roasting.

No organised tour can bring you all this, of course. Mountain employment is very much the ability to go off at whim to wherever the fancy takes. But car rental in the U.S. is easy and even in these high priced dollar days, relatively inexpensive.

The ideal way, but the most expensive, would be to enter via Los Angeles, drive immediately inland to join the mountains at Sequoia. It is then a convoluted but fascinating route north. If you have a month or so you might even make it to Seattle for the flight back to Europe.

Given more normal budgets and time, then use San Francisco as the gateway to a large loop around the Yosemite/Tahoe area. If you go in the next few weeks, while there are still special offers available on fares, be prepared for some higher roads still to be blocked by snow and some leisure facilities—riding establishments for example—not to be open. But do go. The mule deer, the mountain rabbits, the pine martens and the lynx are all waiting.

Diesels on the way

VOLKSWAGEN/AUDI whose range is already Europe's best, continue to produce new models as though they were going out of fashion.

The Polo hatchback, introduced last autumn, has been followed quickly by the Classic three-box version. It went on sale in Britain last month at prices ranging from £2,975 for the 1.1 litre model "C" to £4,790 for the quite elaborately equipped 1.3 litre GL. Like its predecessor, the Derby, the Classic is a Polo up to the door edge. Then it has a stylish saloon back, with a 1.3 cubic feet capacity boot instead of a chopped-off semi-estate back with a tailgate. The boot is really big; a Cortina's holds 11.3 cubic feet.

VW expects to sell 23,000 Polos in Britain this year, 6,000 of them in the Classic saloon version. Nine out of 10 will go to private buyers, for whom it will be their only car. It looks a much larger car than the Polo hatchback and is in fact a foot longer, accounted for entirely by the boot. Its aerodynamics must be better, too. Around town and at moderate cruising speeds, its fuel consumption is identical to that of the Polo hatch. At a steady 75 mph, however, the Classic

does between 1.3 and 1.8 more miles per gallon.

Three more new cars from VW/Audi that I tried in Germany before Easter won't be coming to Britain yet, though two of them—the Audi 80 saloon with turbo-diesel engine and the 2.2 litre, fuel injected Audi 80GT Coupé—are due here by summer.

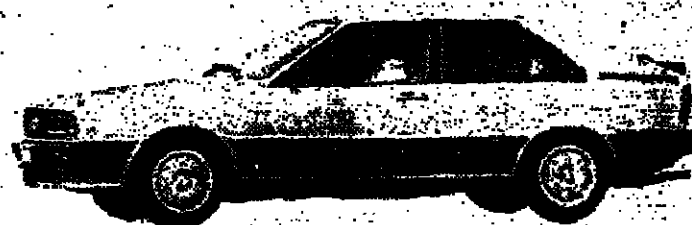
The coupé has essentially the same engine as the 200E saloon and the Quattro, though minus the latter's turbocharger and four-wheel drive. It should be an attractive proposition for the buyer who likes a fast car that

MOTORING

STUART MARSHALL

accelerates well with excellent handling, but needs a family-sized rear compartment and boot.

The five-cylinder engine isn't quite as muscular as it is in the Audi 200E saloon—an output of 130 bhp at 5,900 rpm instead of 136 bhp—because restricted under-bumper space called for changes to the inlet manifold. But the GT's 120 mph maximum



The 120 mph Audi 2.2 litre, fuel-injected GT. It comes in between the Standard 1.9 litre coupé and the £15,000 four-wheel drive Quattro

and 0-62 mph acceleration in 8.2 seconds give it an edge on rival saloon-derived coupés like the Renault Fuego GTX and could even give Porsche 924 fanciers pause for thought.

Price of the 2.2 GT Coupé, power-steered and fitted with a close ratio five-speed gearbox will, I believe, be around £10,000. That would put it well above the less urgent 1.9 litre five-cylinder coupé and below the charismatic Quattro, currently listed (with left hand steering) at a shade over £15,000.

Volkswagen's 1.8 litre turbo-diesel, which I first experienced in the IRVW research vehicle four years ago, is being installed in a range of five cars—Audi 80 and the VW Golf, Jetta, Passat and Santana. The Audi 80 will arrive here at about the same time as the GT coupé. The turbo-diesel GTD is due in Britain early next year; plans for the importing of turbo-diesel Jetta, Passat and Santana (a

notchback derivative of the Passat that makes the Audi 100 look rather redundant) have not been announced.

The British market still doesn't take the diesel car very seriously. We bought just under 10,000 of them last year whereas in Germany, VW alone is selling out car diesels at the rate of 3,000 every working day. But, as I've been maintaining for years, things will change.

It won't be on sale in Britain for several months after its official debut at Turin Show next week. Rover stress its great smoothness.

The first British sounding diesel cars to go on sale here will be the Vauxhall Astra and Cavalier. They are due next month. I tried an Astra diesel (actually, its identical twin Open Kadett) in Switzerland a couple of months ago and was most impressed. Its liveliness and smoothness were fully up to VW standards.

A satellite fixer

THE BIG NEWS to emerge at the rather subdued Earls Court Boat Show was that accurate worldwide navigation has been made possible with the aid of a gadget the size of a lunch box and costing less than £1,000.

Like most of the real account of this advance is more complicated than a one-sentence summary suggests. The system of satellite navigation would not be possible at all, to begin with, without the co-operation of the U.S. Government. The military Satnav system of satellites in roughly polar orbits was put into space 15 years ago to handle the navigation needs of Polaris missiles; and perhaps other

weapons. The U.S. made marine satellite navigation possible for commercial vessels and for yachtsmen by making some of the Satnav facilities freely available.

However, it remained a very expensive way of finding one's way about the oceans for a number of years. Receivers used to cost perhaps £10,000 each. That was until one of the oldest navigation equipment makers in the world, Thomas Walker and Son became interested.

The small Birmingham company employing 60 people brought the first cheap satellite navigator to the market two years ago. Priced initially at £1,500 it prompted a scramble by yachtsmen and fishermen throughout the world to install the new gear and learn the techniques (which are quite simple) of space age navigation. What was almost a once more than trebled their turnover to

some £3m a year and have now given notice by marketing their smaller, simpler, and cheaper, second version at under £1,000 that they intend to stay ahead of the competition.

But how did a traditional company such as Walker manage to beat the rest of the world marine equipment industry including the Americans who had been living with Satnav for years?

It all came about almost by accident. Walker was marketing a range of sound and thoroughly conventional wind and water speed instruments during the 1970s. Meanwhile, the company's oldest and best-known product continued to be

BOATS

ROY HODSON

made—the taffrail mounted mechanical log driven by a rotor towed on a line astern of the vessel.

By 1978 the Walker family had relinquished active management connection with the company. Mr John Bishop, at one time company secretary and now managing director, was attempting to revive the company's fortunes on behalf of a consortium of Midlands businessmen.

The board of directors was sitting round the table in Birmingham and, frankly, wondering where to go when White's scribbled a few lines on a piece of paper and

passed it round. It was the germ of the small boat satellite navigator idea. And it had originated in a progressive electronics company, Polytechnic Marine of Coventry. Polytechnic developed the equipment and now manufactures its electronics. The two companies have become closely linked through common shareholdings.

The heart of the Walker satellite navigator is a control unit. It is there to measure incredibly small time differences as a satellite passes over and transmits signals from which a position can be calculated automatically. To achieve the necessary accuracy the Walker time control unit is housed in a miniature oven within the receiver. As soon as the set is switched on the oven is heated to a temperature of about 80 degrees C and maintains that level. Each time unit and oven are matched together before fitting.

The average time between satellite passes is about 40 minutes. Between them the receiver up-dates the ship's position by a dead reckoning (DR) plot. The new set priced at £995 requires details of course, tidal stream and speed, to be entered manually by the receiver's keyboard to keep up the plot. But the more expensive Sat Nav 802 model at £1,700 can do your DR automatically if it is connected to a log and compass.

The 802 can also be "sent to sleep" for most of the time so that it can accomplish two Atlantic crossings upon the power of one average lead-acid accumulator. It works this way: the receiver is programmed to wake up to secure a ship's latitude and longitude from a passing satellite at, say, mid-

night. It will record the dead reckoning while using hardly any power until one hour before the satellite is due. Then it will "wake up."

The satellite navigation system using Satnav will be the most important ocean navigation system for small boats (apart from the trusty sextant) until the 1990s. During that decade the Americans are expected to make available a new satellite system called a global positioning system and code-named Navstar. Once again it will be primarily a military system with an ultimate accuracy of ground fixes to an order of inches. The de-fused version to be made available to civilians is expected to have a reduced accuracy. The present Satnav can give remarkably accurate results of well under one nautical mile positional error. Generally accuracies are better than 0.2 nautical miles.

For coastal navigation, however, other electronic systems are justifying for position. Several automatic systems now offer fixes from coastal radio beacons. The Decca radio navigational chain has just been made available to yachtsmen through a new set for small boats selling at £500.

Finally, there is at least a prospect of the tried and trusted Loran system, so popular in North America waters, being extended to Europe. Both the Decca and Loran systems have an edge over satellite navigation for coastal waters in that the positions they report are updated continuously from the radio chains whereas satellite navigators depend upon the periodic passage of satellites above the horizon.

Really, there will be little excuse for running aground in the 1990s.

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CHESS

LEONARD BARDEN

AT THE END of nine hours' play in the England v USSR semi-final for the World Chess Cup played by relay, the Soviet side sent a message thanking our team for a "competitive fight." That seems fair comment on a match where the Russians always led but where the English team were several times close to recovery.

Detailed results were (England names first) A. J. Miles v Y. Balashov for adjudication (Miles is a pawn up); J. Speelman v L. Pradkin for adjudication (Speelman is a pawn down); R. D. Keene v A. Yusupov v A. J. Miles v V. Tukmakov for adjudication (Miles is two pawns up but there are bishops of opposite colours); M. Chandler v O. Romanishin v N. D. Short v V. Kupreychik v P. E. Little.

BRIDGE

E. P. C. COTTER

SOMETIMES HANDS are flat and uninteresting, but here are two deals from rubber bridge which will, I think, instruct and entertain you. Look first at this:

N
♠ Q 5
♥ A J 7 3
♦ K Q 8 6
♣ 9 6 4

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♠ 10 9 8 6 2
♥ 5 4 3
♦ 2
♣ 10 9 8 5 2

E
♠ 7 4 3
♥ K 6
♦ J 10 5 2
♣ J 5 3

S
♠ A K J
♥ Q 10 9
♦ A 7
♣ A K 10 8 7

With North-South vulnerable, South dealt and bid two no-trumps, and North answered with a Baron three clubs, asking for four-card suits to be bid in ascending order. South said three no-trumps, which announced that he had no four-card suit other than clubs, so North did not waste time in

bidding his red suits, but went straight to six no-trumps, which became the final contract.

East led the ten of spades, which was taken by the King, and the declarer laid down the Ace of clubs. When each defender produced a low card, South led the seven of clubs to dummy's nine. West showed out, and the Knave won. East returned a spade to the Queen on the table, a club was led for the marked finesse of the ten, and the King dropped East's Queen, during which time West had discarded a spade and two diamonds.

The declarer, who was a first-class performer, came to the conclusion that West must have more hearts than East, and was therefore, more likely to hold the King, so that the finesse was the percentage play. But he also knew that West was an average player, who had learnt to "cover an honour" at his mother's knee, so he played the heart Queen from hand, and when West played low without hesitation, he put up dummy's Ace, and decided to rely on a heart-diamond squeeze against East's crossed ten and King, and cashed the Ace of spades.

In the four-card ending East held the heart King and Knave,

outcome appears unlikely. The diagram shows the final position with Tukmakov (White) to move but no clear winning plan for Moscow.

The trouble with Black's position is that his two united passed pawns are blocked and will remain so. White does not continue 1-Bx7; K-B4; 2-BxP; P-Q5 when the pawns advance and Black should win, but 1-Bx7; K-Q3; 2-B-N8 ch; K-B4; 3-Bx7 ch; maintaining the dark square blockade. Black can try various long-winded manoeuvres to infiltrate with his pieces; but White's king and bishop only have to protect a small area of territory between the QB and KB files so there seems insufficient room to break through.

Though neither side was completely at full strength, England probably were more affected by the absence of Nunn and Short on prior overseas commitments than the Russian side were by missing Tal and Polugaevsky (Karpov has never played tele chess, and Kasparov has not done so for several years).

A narrow defeat from the

world champions is an honourable result. Scores in the four most recent England v USSR matches are 3-2 (Buenos Aires 1978), 4-4 (Skara 1980), 1-2 (Malta 1980), and now probably 3-4-4. A yawning chasm of difference in class a generation ago (we lost 11-18 to the Russians in 1964) is now the narrowest of gaps.

The match was held in excellent conditions, at Phillips and Drew's London Wall offices while the England team was, as usual, sponsored by Duncan Lawrie. In the most brilliant game of the day, Kupreychik gained revenge on Nigel Short for defeat at Hastings.

White: V. Kupreychik (USSR). Black: N. D. Short (England). Pirc Defence.

(World Telex Cup, 1982)

1 P-K4, P-Q3; 2 P-Q4, N-KB3; 3 N-B5, P-KN3; 4 B-K3, P-R4; 5 Q-Q2, Q-N7; 6 N-B3, Q-R3 (the best moves in this opening are debatable, but P-QN4 and B-QN2 are more solid); 7 B-Q3, P-K4; 8 Q-Q4, P-QN4; 9 R-N1, Q-B2; 10 B-N5, B-R2; 11 P-KR4, P-QR3 (provoking White's following sacrifices,

but after mixing two opening systems Black should batter down the hatches by 11... N-KR4; 12 P-P, P-P; 13 P-N3, N-KR4; 14 B-K3, P-R3; 15 R-N1 (winning the black K in the centre). White has ample compensation for the exchange. P-R1; 16 Q-N3 ch, N-B3; 17 N-KP; R-KN1; 18 Q-B4, R-R2; 19 N-Q5 ch! P-N2; 20 P-P, B-N2? (a blunder but Black is lost. White has a variety of threats including N-B8 ch and B-B5); 21 N-N6 ch! K-Q2; 22 Q-B5 ch. Resigns. If R-K1; 23 R-K1 ch, K-Q1; 24 Q-N ch, K-B1; 25 N-K7 ch.

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LEGAL NOTICE

No. 007621 of 1982

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE Chancery Division. In the Matter of ASBWOOD MACHINE TOOLS PUBLIC LIMITED COMPANY and in the Matter of the Companies Act 1948.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Petition was on the 29th March 1982 presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice for the confirmation of the reduction of the Capital of the above-named Company from £300,000 to £215,000.

AND NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the said Petition is directed to be heard before the Honourable Mr. Justice Nourse at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London, W.C.2, on Monday the 26th day of April 1982.

Any Creditor or Shareholder of the said Company desiring to oppose the making of an Order for the confirmation of the said reduction of Capital should appear at the time of hearing on or by Counsel for that purpose. A copy of the said Petition will be furnished to any such person requiring the same by the undersigned Solicitors on payment of the regulated charge for the same.

Dated this Seventeenth day of April 1982.

ASHURST MORRIS CRISP & CO.,
Broadgate House,
7 Eldon Street,
London EC2M 7HD.
Solicitors for the said Company.

BRIDGE

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E.B.E.S. SOCIÉTÉ REUNIES D'ENERGIE DU BASSIN DE L'ESCAUT SOCIÉTÉ ANONYME
(Incorporated under the laws of the Kingdom of Belgium)

RECONVENED EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the Extraordinary General Meeting of the Company which was held on Monday, 13th April, 1982, at 10.45 a.m. at the Registered Office of the Company, Mechelenstraat 27, Antwerp, Belgium, will now be held on Tuesday, 26th April, 1982, at 10.45 a.m. at the Registered Office of the Company, Mechelenstraat 27, Antwerp, Belgium.

BUSINESS

- To receive the Reports of the Board of Directors, the "College des Commissaires", and the Company's Accounts for the year ended 31st December 1981.
- To approve the Balance Sheet, Profit and Loss Account and the appropriation of Profits, for the year ended 31st December 1981.
- To elect Directors and "Commissaires".

Note: Holders of share warrants entitled and wishing to attend or to be represented at the meeting should deposit, by Tuesday, 26th April, 1982, either their share warrants to bearer or a certificate of their holding, signed by their Bankers or Banque Belge d'Etat, 4, Boulevard de la Woluwe, 1200 Brussels, Belgium, or a certificate of their holding, signed by their Bankers or Banque Belge d'Etat, 4, Boulevard de la Woluwe, 1200 Brussels, Belgium, or a certificate of their holding, signed by their Bankers or Banque Belge d'Etat, 4, Boulevard de la Woluwe, 1200 Brussels, Belgium.

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In the four-card ending East held the heart King and Knave,

outcome appears unlikely. The diagram shows the final position with Tukmakov (White) to move but no clear winning plan for Moscow.

The trouble with Black's position is that his two united passed pawns are blocked and will remain so. White does not continue 1-Bx7; K-B4; 2-BxP; P-Q5 when the pawns advance and Black should win, but 1-Bx7; K-Q3; 2-B-N8 ch; K-B4; 3-Bx7 ch; maintaining the dark square blockade. Black can try various long-winded manoeuvres to infiltrate with his pieces; but White's king and bishop only have to protect a small area of territory between the QB and KB files so there seems insufficient room to break through.

Though neither side was completely at full strength, England probably were more affected by the absence of Nunn and Short on prior overseas commitments than the Russian side were by missing Tal and Polugaevsky (Karpov has never played tele chess, and Kasparov has not done so for several years).

A narrow defeat from the

world champions is an honourable result. Scores in the four most recent England v USSR matches are 3-2 (Buenos Aires 1978), 4-4 (Skara 1980), 1-2 (Malta 1980), and now probably 3-4-4. A yawning chasm of difference in class a generation ago (we lost 11-18 to the Russians in 1964) is now the narrowest of gaps.

The match was held in excellent conditions, at Phillips and Drew's London Wall offices while the England team was, as usual, sponsored by Duncan Lawrie. In the most brilliant game of the day, Kupreychik gained revenge on Nigel Short for defeat at Hastings.

White: V. Kupreychik (USSR). Black: N. D. Short (England). Pirc Defence.

(World Telex Cup, 1982)

1 P-K4, P-Q3; 2 P-Q4, N-KB3; 3 N-B5, P-KN3; 4 B-K3, P-R4; 5 Q-Q2, Q-N7; 6 N-B3, Q-R3 (the best moves in this opening are debatable, but P-QN4 and B-QN2 are more solid); 7 B-Q3, P-K4; 8 Q-Q4, P-QN4; 9 R-N1, Q-B2; 10 B-N5, B-R2; 11 P-KR4, P-QR3 (provoking White's following sacrifices,

but after mixing two opening systems Black should batter down the hatches by 11... N-KR4; 12 P-P, P-P; 13 P-N3, N-KR4; 14 B-K3, P-R3; 15 R-N1 (winning the black K in the centre). White has ample compensation for the exchange. P-R1; 16 Q-N3 ch, N-B3; 17 N-KP; R-KN1; 18 Q-B4, R-R2; 19 N-Q5 ch! P-N2; 20 P-P, B-N2? (a blunder but Black is lost. White has a variety of threats including N-B8 ch and B-B5); 21 N-N6 ch! K-Q2; 22 Q-B5 ch. Resigns. If R-K1; 23 R-K1 ch, K-Q1; 24 Q-N ch, K-B1; 25 N-K7 ch.

POSITION No. 419

BLACK (3 min)

WHITE (3 min)

HOW TO SPEND IT

by Lucia van der Post

Make yourself at home in the office



If all those pundits who have been predicting for years that one day we will all work at home connected to all our colleagues by computer terminals turn out to be right then this is the kind of office that I will be voting for. The two room-settings shown here above and below each use pieces from Johnny Grey's collection of furniture for the "Home Office." As is immediately apparent all the pieces look aesthetically quite at home in the domestic environment yet all also serve the purposes for which they were designed.

In the photograph, above, there is the kind of desk for those who go in for very large work surfaces and good deep drawer storage. The top is made from solid English ash, the feet are hand-turned ash, whilst the main body is lacquered black. The drawer handles are turned red acrylic (a new and unique technique). It is £2,752. The chair is one of the few items that are not a Johnny Grey design—it is the Unifair chair from Italy. In the background is an ash table specially designed to hold a VDU and it is £293. To its left is one of the most versatile

pieces of furniture in the range—it would look good in almost any room in the house. In a combination of solid ash, black lacquered frame and glass-fronted with red steel across the glass, it is £3,976.

The lights are another Johnny Grey design—the shades are in black spun metal, the central core in hand-turned ash and some of the supporting structure is red steel. There are both desk and standard versions, £179 and £416.

In the picture below there is a trestle table which here offers a large working surface but it could, if the household needs ever changed, obviously double as a dining-table or any other sort of table. The top is veneered (the only piece of furniture in the collection to be veneered but in this case it is essential because being reversible and portable solid wood would warp) and sits firmly on the trestles by means of four rubber lugs. The standard version (as pictured here) is £579, but the top can be ordered in any size for an extra charge. The adjustable shelves in the background are £381 and the filing cabinet (which takes suspension files) is £380.

REGULAR readers of this page will already be acquainted with some of the work of Johnny Grey. I see that when I wrote about his range of bedroom furniture for Heals, the London furniture shop, I described him as the enfant terrible of the design world. Well, things don't seem to have changed. He is still surprising, stimulating and infuriating the rest of the design world by his insistence on doing things his way; by refusing to adapt his designs to the sort of things that it suits manufacturers to make.

He has this old-fashioned view that design should come first and that it is the manufacturer's job to devise ways of bringing it to life. Companies which prefer to believe that the limitations of the manufacturing process should dictate what he designs find this view highly inconvenient.

For those who are interested in his whole philosophy and have to struggle to grapple with the sometimes dense and verbose prose, he has written a supporting manifesto "In Place Of Modernism" which is available on request. I entirely endorse his views but wish he had found a better editor.

To turn, however, to the main focus of his activities—his furniture designs—he has now turned his attention to what he calls the Home Office. The Home Office collection aims, he says, to "blur the distinction between the office and the study at home, by fulfilling the functions of the office within the aesthetics of the living room."

This, I think, he has achieved to a remarkable extent. Look at the pictures here which illustrate the individual pieces of furniture in the collection, all of which are designed to fulfil the functions of office furniture (storage, work surface, seating) and it is immediately apparent that they offer an aesthetic appeal that is quite different from anything else that is currently on the market. Not everybody will like it, but it is original, it does offer an alternative aesthetic to the office furniture already on the market.

As Robin Guild, director of Homeworks, which has helped finance the making of the furniture and will display and sell it, puts it "These pieces have all the qualities that used to be associated with high-quality British furniture but this is the first time I have seen them used in an original and modern idiom. For instance, the furniture is made from solid wood, it is hand-turned and finished, it uses lacquering and metalwork and in terms of its finish harks back to the times when British furniture was known for its quality. I haven't seen this quality in anything except reproduction furniture for years."

The furniture is, needless to say, not cheap but Robin Guild points out that it is no more expensive than top-level Italian furniture and it is certainly, in his view, far better made than most of that.

The story of the passage of the furniture from design pad to shop floor is almost a parable of the problems facing the British furniture designer.



In the photograph, above, there is another group of furniture from the "Home Office" range. This time a circular table which, obviously, could also double as a dining-table. In solid ash, with hand-turned base and feet, it is just one of a series of circular tables—some have wooden subframes, others have metal ones. The tables start at about £1,700. The chairs shown here

with the table are in ash with upholstered seats (though there are also similar versions with ash seats) and they are £242 each.

The three photographs on this page can only show some of the collection but there are many other items in it—there's a drinks cabinet (sign of the times!) with or without a fridge, conference tables, a home study desk

(which I suspect will probably be the most successful piece in the collection) as well as a plan chest, with or without a light box, and a whole series of small tables. The complete range can be seen at Homeworks. Anybody wanting to contact Johnny Grey himself either for catalogues or further information should write to him at 9, Abingdon Road, London W8.

Johnny Grey couldn't find a single manufacturer who was prepared to make his designs. Either they didn't have the manufacturing capacity or they found the designs too novel for their taste or they were simply not prepared to put up the necessary finance.

It is the kind of story that seems not to happen in places like Italy where every manufacturer of note seems delighted to attach a designer's name to a range (cf Offred's designs for Saporiti, Magistretti's for Cassina). Manufacturers are

keen to underwrite the talents of these designers and do not expect one in-house designer to produce the entire range. Here, it seems, designers can't wait to be employed by industry but have to be prepared to go out and organise the manufacturing as well.

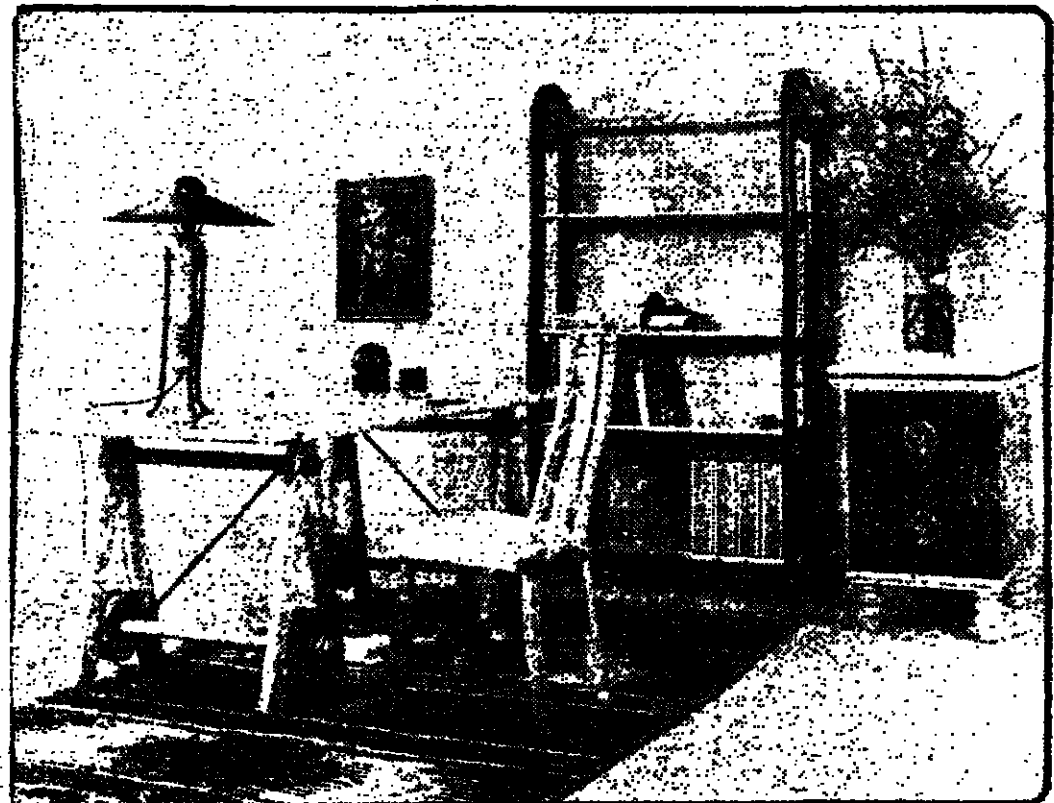
Many of the skills and techniques that Johnny Grey needed if the furniture was to live up to his ideals were not easily found. For instance, turning the acrylic handles was a new technique which Stanley Plas-tics agreed to explore for him.

Three different wood-working workshops do the cabinet making and then there are other workshops which do the lacquer and metal-work. All of them were prepared to give the kind of attention to detail that contributes to the final quality of the furniture.

In the end, Robin Guild, Johnny Grey and the various workshops that make up the co-operative responsible for making the furniture, provided the finance themselves. This way the risk has been spread and everybody feels committed to its success.

As to the outcome of all this effort—it can be seen at Homeworks, Dove Walk, 107 Pimlico Road, London SW1. Interested readers can write to Homeworks for a free leaflet describing the range. There is also a fuller catalogue which is available for £2, refundable if anything is ordered.

I urge anybody who thinks that British furniture is sterile, undesirable and at a dead-end to go and have a look at this new range.



What's in a name?

YOU MIGHT think that the world is well supplied with fine perfumes and that it is even better supplied (or even over-supplied) with fine perfumes attached to a designer's name. The great cosmetic companies, however, think otherwise. Spring is obviously perfume time and in the last three weeks three brand new scents, all with a name attached to them have landed on my desk.

There's Sophia (ladies first), after guess who, launched by Coty. From Charles of the Ritz

there is Gianni Versace (who?—Gianni Versace, for those not in the know, is a modish Italian fashion designer) and finally from Helena Rubinstein comes Armani (after Giorgio Armani, another modish Italian fashion designer).

All three (or sometimes the companies on their behalf) claim a close and intimate involvement with the development of the perfume.

Sophia Loren says: "For me the discovery of this perfume was a beautiful experience, because it was created not just for me, but for all women. I love the scent. It is a rich, classic essence that lasts but is never obvious. It is constantly exciting to wear."

About Gianni Versace, the press release has this to say: "Acknowledged as the designer of the 60s by the international gurus of fashion, you (ie Versace) offer us today your latest creation, original, precious and sophisticated: a perfume in which you have put so much of yourself that it bears your name: Gianni Versace."

As for Armani, he wanted his first fragrance "to be an elusive fragrance. A fragrance that

suggests and whispers many things but is not aggressive, because if you have something to say and say it softly it has a more startling effect than if you shout it out."

So how did the "names" come to be chosen? Sophia Loren is perhaps the most intriguing choice—Coty began by looking for an international film star. Sophia Loren came top on so many points that she became the natural choice. As the company agreed to give her approval not only of the perfume, but also of its packaging, the posters, the script for the commercials and all the other image-building ingredients she agreed (for an undisclosed royalty, rumoured already to have brought her in the region of £370,000 in the States) to the deal.

Charles of the Ritz are less specific about their choice of Armani—they confine themselves to saying that as a couturier "he showed tremendous promise for the future and he suited our image as a company." He, too, was closely involved with the development of the perfume and much play is made of his influence over

the "flacon"—"Cut like a diamond, it shines forth a gleaming V for Versace." As to the financial deal—the company limits itself to the enigmatic comment that "he has an agreement with the parent company."

Helena Rubinstein are endearingly frank about their choice of Armani—"There aren't any French designer names who don't already have a perfume are there?"—but then go on to say that he is a big name in the States and in Germany. Women's Wear Daily, the bible of the American rag-trade quoted a \$5m agreement but Helena Rubinstein says simply that it can't disclose the terms.

And apart from all that, what are the scents themselves actually like? Very nice, all three. My personal favourite is Armani (£54-an ounce for the perfume itself), followed by the Gianni Versace (£20 for 50 ml) and, finally, Sophia (I found it a little sweet and cloying for my personal taste) but at £8.95 for 7.5 ml it is quite a bit cheaper. Armani is not on sale until May 3 but the other two are already in the shops.

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ARTS

Easter radio

BY B. A. YOUNG

What a lovely time the BBC gives its regular contributors! For his Easter Day offering, Derek Cooper of *The Food Programme* went with a wine-merchant, Jack Hill, for a tour of the Bordeaux wine country. The magic names floated through the speakers—Haut-Brion, Lafite, Latour, Mouton-Rothschild—and Jack Hill told how he would decide what to buy. He was not giving advice to listeners: he was making his own professional judgments. We shall know how right or wrong they were when the wines appear (or don't appear) in the wine-merchant's shops. Until then, we must assess his approval by the sound of his slurping, the tone in which he spoke of fruit, body or the colour of the meniscus.

Frank Delaney had his Bookshelf holiday in Paris with the idea of conjuring up the spirit of the post-first-world-war days of Hemingway, Gertrude Stein, James Joyce and the rest. He met Maria Jolas, widow of Eugene Jolas who published *Transition*. She was lovely, but not universally kind. Not very keen on *Exile* Pound ("arrogant") or Miss Stein ("aggressive, egocentric"), but devoted to Joyce.

Frank Delaney's guide to modern French books was Ivan Nabokov, the other Nabokov, the publisher, who told him that only half the French population ever bought a book at all: when they did, it was probably a Goncourt winner. On the other hand, the waiter at Les Millefeuille who served such big helpings of cake, said that lots of people bought comic-strip books. *Eheu*, fancies looking for café faces in the post-second-world-war days of Sartre and the American composer Ned Rorem, but I didn't have the BBC behind me.

Brian Johnston was *Down Your Way* down my way, in the Cotswolds. What serious folk he met in Fairford, where they are still proud of the Canon Corde! Their chosen records included Beethoven's *Pastorale*, Albinoni's popular andante, the rondo from Mozart's piano sonata K331 (played on guitar and vibraphone). I didn't like any of them as well as the old record of Maxine Sullivan singing "A brown bird singing".

I was straying among the familiar programmes to reorient myself after a week of

American radio, which as everyone knows consists of nothing but news, pop and advertisements. How wrong everyone is! I heard a recording of *Die Entführung aus dem Serail* from the Met with an absolutely superb performance by Edda Moser; and in one of the intervals an entertaining "Opera quiz" in which one of the contestants was our own William Weaver. All sponsored by Texaco.

On Monday, Radio 4 gave us a pretty story for children by Mary Hayley Bell, *The Winged Boy*, that I probably shouldn't have listened to if it hadn't been transmitted in binaural sound. I put on my stereo headphones as Radio Times told me, and was periodically startled to hear doors opening and shutting behind me that did not actually exist. The story concerned a poor Irish boy who grew wings and learned to fly, an ability that terrified him when he was persuaded to try it in a circus, but ultimately ensured him immortality like the cherub in the stained-glass window. Someone must tell me the difference between "binaural" and "stereo," which seem to me the same thing, at the end of the transmission anyway, whatever they're doing in the studio.

We could have done with some stereo in Saturday-Night Theatre's *Appleby's End*, to sort out some of the complexities of Michael Tinner's comedy-thriller, rendered no less complex by Michael Bakewell's adaptation. John Hurt as Detective Inspector Appleby was an unexpected but happy bit of casting, though as he was almost the only normal character facing an array of bizarre folk with names like Heyhoe, Rainbird, Hobbin and Grope, he couldn't hope to do much more than be an averagely efficient but rather bewildered officer. Of the grotesques, I specially enjoyed Christopher Douglas's Billy Bidewell. Jane Morgan directed.

Half an hour's nightly *Chamber Jazz* on Radio 4 at 11.30 pm was welcome, even if only because it wasn't on Radio 3, which already had *Jazz Record Requests*, *Benny Goodman and Friends*, *Jazz in Britain*, *Jazz Today* and *Take It, Prez!* in the week. But why "the best small groups of the last 40 years" when you have to go back more than 50 years for the *crème de la crème*?



Derek Griffiths

The Nerd

BY B. A. YOUNG

Larry Shue's *The Nerd* was spotted by Abraham Murray at the Milwaukee Rep and brought back by him to direct at the Royal Exchange, Manchester. It uses the familiar formula of a stable household invaded by the disruptive influence that may be Sheridan Whiteside and may be just a nerd. The Exchange's programme will tell you what a nerd is, but briefly, it is what it sounds like. The stable household in this piece consists of three people living together but apparently not cohabiting.

William (David Horvitch) is an ambitious young architect, working on hotel plans for authoritarian philistine Mr. Waldgrave. Axel (Gary Waldhorn) is a theatre critic, who wears a tuxedo to opening nights; the play is set in *Terre Haute*, where no doubt critical behaviour is more pisticritical.

Topsy (Shelley Borkum) is a career girl intent on making a career as the weather-girl on Washington television. The intrusive nerd is Rick, unknown to all of them but William, whose life he is said to have saved years before in Vietnam. He is a figure of the wildest farce, who makes his

first entry in an octopus costume under the impression he has been asked to a fancy-dress party. Derek Griffiths bestows on him all his manifold gifts of comedy without restraint, making Mr Shue's situations almost seem funny. They're culled from a repertoire that always has been funny, and lightly lubricated with Neil Simon-style one-liners, so I must attribute my reluctance to laugh to over-familiarity.

Rick's antics, which are countered by William and Axel with the aid of an unnecessary offstage figure called Kemp and a great deal of electronic sound ultimately turn out to be purely beneficial. William's contract for a hotel that looks like a shoebox is cancelled, and William is stimulated into renewed courtship of Topsy. Axel—but I mustn't say more about Axel, who proves to be the devisor of a surprise ending that survives no more than that Mr Shue had come to the conclusion that he must end the play somehow, and not a moment too soon if you ask me.

For what it's worth, it's nicely played in a middle-class sitting-room furnished by Johanna Bryant.

BY DOMINIC GILL

Under the firm but unobtrusive leadership of Janos Kadar, the most notable of whose many political distinctions is that he is perhaps the only one of today's communist leaders who might be re-elected in a genuinely free election—Hungary's "new" economic mechanism" of the past decade has brought to fruit a market-oriented brand of socialism unique in the Eastern bloc.

The keystone of this remarkable path of social and economic progress has been Steady but Sure. Since 1958, any hint of sudden change of direction has been scrupulously avoided; and where it has occurred elsewhere in the East, it has been viewed by and large in Hungary with pessimism and alarm. Given time, Hungarians constantly remind one, time is on their side. Unspectacular but steady growth in farm productivity, for example, during the 1970s has transformed the country into a net exporter of foodstuffs in the 1980s for the first time since the war. Prices of luxury goods, for Hungarians, are high; but the goods are available, and shops are plentifully stocked. Occasional shortages (last year, picture-pins and toilet-paper this year, paper handkerchiefs and cartons of fresh orange juice) may be infuriating to live with, but they are the exception rather than the rule.

In such a context—where "revitalisation," rather than "reform," is the chosen and much-reiterated word—it could hardly be imagined that Hungary would ignore the potential of tourism (next to oil, after all, the world's second largest industry). A picturesque setting on the banks of the Danube, a famous concern for hospitality and courtesy, lively cultural traditions, a profusion of spas and thermal baths, and especially a geographical location, poised at the very centre of Europe, between East and West, all serve to make Budapest as natural a staging-post as Vienna for visitors travelling in either direction.

During the past five years tourism has indeed become one of the Hungarian capital's major industries. A significant hard-currency earner, during 1981, nearly 15m tourists visited or passed through the country, nearly all through Budapest—an extraordinary figure, set beside the nation's total population of only 10½m.

The city is already notable

for its autumn "Music Days," and also for the enterprising little festival of contemporary music—the *Korvák* series, or "Music of Today"—presented under the same umbrella, which I have reviewed regularly on this page. There, although foreign visitors are naturally welcome, the accent is primarily on domestic consumption. But Budapest's new Spring Festival, an annual event unveiled for the second time this year under the somewhat cumbersome banner of "Tourism and Culture for Mankind," is principally and explicitly a tourist attraction.

In the space of 10 days it offers the foreign visitor a dizzying variety of cultural programmes, with the emphasis very much on mark, selling, pound and dollar exchange, excursions (by boat up the Danube, and to the surrounding towns and countryside); exhibitions (of paintings, ceramics and sculpture, including a fine show by the sculptor Amerigo Tot in the gallery of the newly-restored Vigadó); theatre, dance and puppet shows; an international festival of cinema; special regional gastronomic menus in most of

occasions better. Apart from a puppet performance of *Harry James*, and a public session of the International Kodaly Society, this choral event was the only concert of the festival which prominently featured Kodaly's music.

I was delighted above all to have the opportunity to hear live in recital for the first time one of my childhood heroes-on-disc, the pianist Gyorgy Cziffra. It was not an auspicious occasion, for only a few weeks before his Budapest appearance, Cziffra had suffered the tragic accidental death in France of his son (a distinguished young conductor, also named Gyorgy, with a promising career ahead of him). It was a brave gesture in the circumstances to continue with the recital; but in an announcement beforehand he begged our indulgence for what he felt would be inevitable shortcomings. In fact, there was none: a sparkling display of grand-romantic pianism of the most ravishing kind, wonderfully stirring, touched only from time to time with colours of the darkest melancholy, deeply moving.

Like Richter, Cziffra now plays a Yamaha concert grand

extraordinary in every respect, wrought from sprung-steel, and taken at the same instantly exciting tempo one remembers from the discs; of the second Hungarian Rhapsody, Cziffra has not played in England for well-nigh a dozen years—that is our loss, and should be remedied very soon.

Another piano recital, given by the winner of last year's Liszt-Bartók Piano Competition in Budapest, merely added weight to the powerful case against all music competitions in general. Hortense Cartier-Bresson (great-niece of the photographer) may have won her prize; but she is a pianist of no kind of public musical calibre. Her recital was a small-scale, tentative affair, good student stuff that showed scant trace of genuine original perception.

Much more satisfying, one guessed, to have spent the evening with Leonard's *Esperanto* Theatre and their new production (in *Esperanto*, no less, for this is a matter of serious international concern) of a play, entitled *Does God Bark?*—or, entitled *Does God Bark?*—or, entitled *Does God Bark?*—in the better-known and more expensive restaurants, can be barely recognisable: the famous cold cherry soup indistinguishable from Eden Value yoghurt; delicious fresh *jogurt* fish from Lake Balaton too good to grill to a cheery *apet*. Beware anything but local cheese (and beware that too): *Roquefort* is a euphemism for a small pile of very old and very finely grated Danish Blue.

In the smaller, vastly cheaper (and) restaurants of the beaten track, however, there are still many happy discoveries to be made. Rich, spicy fish soup, pungent with saffron and garlic, is a meal in itself (soups everywhere, in a country that has not yet accepted stock-cubes, are generally excellent). And *Turkos*, bizarre dessert of cold noodles, white cheese, sour cream and pork crackling, is actually much more delicious (if not less surprising) than sounds. But take an interpreter or a Hungarian friend: where the best cooking is, neither the menu nor the staff speaks English.

Budapest's new Spring Festival provided 'the opportunity to hear live in recital one of my childhood heroes-on-disc, the pianist Gyorgy Cziffra'

the main restaurants around town. Hungary's most enduring contributions to international culture, nonetheless, beyond the barriers of language, have always been music; and it was right that concerts and recitals should have taken the centre of the stage.

If I had stayed longer, and had been able to visit at least four places simultaneously for the schedule proposed around 20 events, usually mutually exclusive, every day, I could have heard Haydn's *Il ritorno di Tobia*, half a dozen organ recitals, a dozen each of chamber and orchestral concerts, the splendid Hungarian Radio Children's Choir, and a programme of choral works by Kodaly, (1982 is the century year reserved for "Kodaly"), and it seemed strange that the organisers had not sized the

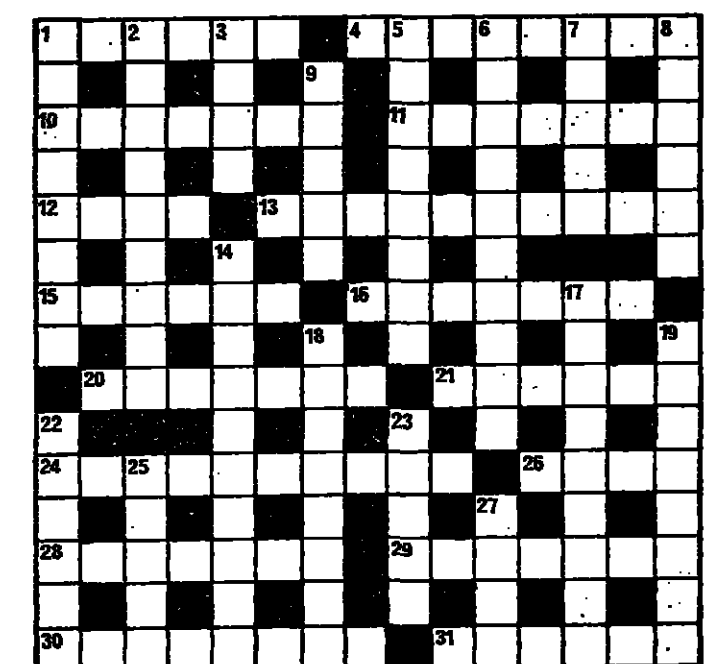
at his public performances: a smaller-scale sound than the Steinway's, but sweet-toned and intimate, nicely suited to the domestic acoustics of the Vigadó. Just a hint, of looking up and nodding at the audience before the last notes of each piece had died away—visual equivalent of clapping before the piece has finished—found irritating. But the authority and command of the playing, while it lasted, was irresistible.

In his first half Cziffra gave us nearly 1½ hours of music: a huge sequence of Liszt and Chopin, framed by Liszt's *B minor Ballade*, grandly sonorous, and a Chopin *Barcarolle* of marvellous, unstoppable mounting. His last half was reserved for "Kodaly": two Liszt arrangements of Chopin songs, and an account,

F.T. CROSSWORD PUZZLE No. 4,849

A prize of £10 will be given to each of the senders of the first three correct solutions opened. Solutions must be received by next Thursday, marked Crossword in the top left-hand corner of the envelope, and addressed to the Financial Times, 10, Cannon Street, London, EC4A 3DF. Winners and solution will be given next Saturday.

Name
Address



- ACROSS
- American city right for a literary artist (6)
 - Pristine, and of the highest quality, but with little value (8)
 - Finished knitting laid aside (+3)
 - Perplex no more in Paris (7)
 - A foolish person to attack (+1)
 - Adequate stock and transport for it (5+3)
 - Scanty silver in a pool (6)
 - Discharge a bank clerk holding money, that's right (7)
 - Careful examination of South American country's state (7)
 - Article I severed in a dam (6)
 - Tolerates work in the garden, but comes to a complete stop (10)
 - Shellfish left in river (4)
 - Mount, holding a toffee (7)
 - A refreshing drink for reviving the spirits (7)
 - One who builds an annex without contract (8)
 - Indian servant or messenger (6)
- DOWN
- Cards or quilts? (4+4)
 - I box in time, but it's unequal (9)
 - Bone broken in a tree (4)
 - Telephone twice for an old portable timekeeper (4+4)
 - A modern timekeeper held by small worker (6+4)
 - Wicked in state house (5)
 - Going too slowly, but 5 wouldn't be, although 6 may be (6)
 - A measure that's forthcoming (5)
 - Aircraft mechanic prevents flying with a soldier (10)
 - Longfellow's strange device going onward and upward (9)
 - Prison, to the time of being put in headquarters (8)
 - Blunderer taking a glass from the south (8)
 - Spirit beloved by Eras (6)
 - Loose bits of coal (5)
 - Evil demon making a mixture of materials for producing glass (5)
 - Unusually bare Scottish hill-slope (4)

Solution to Puzzle No. 4,848



TV/Radio

† Indicates programmes in black and white.

BBC 1

6.25-8.55 am Open University (Ultra High Frequency only); 9.05 The Do-It-Yourself Film Animation Show, 9.30 Get Set for Summer, 9.55 Days of Thrills and Laughter (Film, 1961), 12.27 Weather, 12.30 pm GRANDSTAND including 1.00 News Summary; Football Focus (12.35); World Ice Hockey Championships (1.05); Rugby League "Top Try" Competition (1.40); Racing from Newbury; 2.00 Bucklebury Maiden Fillets Stakes; 2.30 Clerical, Medical Greenham Stakes, 3.00 Newbury Spring Cup Handicap; 3.30 John Porter Stakes; 3.45 Badminton Horse Trials, the Whitbread Trophy; International Swimming from Blackpool (4.35); 5.05 The All New Pink Panther Show, 5.35 News, 5.35 Spotlight Show, 5.40 The Dukes of Hazard, 6.30 Pop Quiz with Mike Read, 7.00 Ken Dodd's Showbiz (last in series), 7.35 Saturday Film: "The Greatest Show on Earth" (1952) starring Betty Hutton, Dorothy Lamour, Charlton Heston, 10.05 News and Sport, 10.30 Match of the Day, High Lights of two Football League matches, analysis and interviews, 12.01 Pearl Spectacular three-part drama about the American entry into World War II, starring Angie Dickinson, Robert Wagner, 12.50 am-12.55 Weather.

REGIONAL VARIATIONS:

Cymru/Wales—5.35 pm-5.40 Sports News Wales, Scotland—9.00 am-9.30 Mag Is Mog, 5.35 pm-5.40 Scoreboard, 10.00-10.20 Sportscentre, 12.50 am Weather; Scottish News Summary and Weather, Northern Ireland—3.10 pm-3.45 Rugby Union, 4.35-5.05 Scoreboard, 5.35-5.40 Northern Ireland News, 12.50 am Weather, Northern Ireland News Summary, 5.35-5.40 Sportscentre, 12.50 am Weather, Plymouth: Spotlight West—Regional results and reports, All other English

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regions: Sport/Regional News.

6.25 am-3.10 pm Open University.

BBC 2

7.30 Saturday Cinema: "Boom Town" (1940) starring Clark Gable, Spencer Tracy, Claudette Colbert, Hedy Lamarr, 5.05 Badminton Horse Trials, 6.35 The Full Cost?, 6.35 Did You See...? 7.15 News and Sport, 7.35 Washington: Behind Closed Doors. A fictional series about those who use and abuse power starring Jason Robards, Stefanie Powers, 9.20 The Other Tour, 10.10 Man Alive: One of the Family. A look at life for those who live and work in stately homes, 11.05 News, Weather, 11.10-1.10 am The Films of Arthur Welles: "Citizen Kane" (1941), also starring Joseph Cotten, Agnes Moorehead, Dorothy Comynore, 9.35 am Sesame Street, 10.30 Cartoon Time, 10.45 The Adventures of Black Beauty, 11.15 Space 1999... The Full Circle, 12.15 pm WORLD OF SPORT: 12.20 On the Ball, 12.45 Rallying, 1.00 Motorcycling—The John Player International 250 cc Championship, 1.15 News, 1.20 The ITV Six from Ayr and Thirsk, 3.10 Motor Cycling: The World of Sport Superbike Challenge, 3.20 News, 3.45 Half-time Soccer News and Reports, 4.00 Wrestling from Bolton, 4.50 Results, 5.05 News, 5.15 Worzel Gummidge, 5.45 Buck Rogers in the 25th Century: The Time of the Hawk—Part I, starring Gil Gerard and Erin Gray, 6.45 9-2-1... Egypt, presented by Ted Rogers, 7.45 The Assassination Bureau starring Oliver Reed, Diana Rigg, Telly Savalas and Curt Jurgens (1968), 9.45 News, 10.00 Arthur Lowe in Car Along the Pass, 10.30 Oil for England, 11.30 News Headlines followed by Johnny Carson's Tonight Show, 12.10 Adult Continental Movie Seven Suspects for Murder, starring Michele Morgan and Serge Reggiani (1975), 6.45 9-2-1... Egypt, presented by Ted Rogers, 7.45 The Assassination Bureau starring Oliver Reed, Diana Rigg, Telly Savalas and Curt Jurgens (1968), 9.45 News, 10.00 Arthur Lowe in Car Along the Pass, 10.30 Oil for England, 11.30 News Headlines followed by Johnny Carson's Tonight Show, 12.10 Adult Continental Movie Seven Suspects for Murder, starring Michele Morgan and Serge Reggiani (1975),

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ANGLIA

9.00 am Sesame Street, 10.30 Sport Billy, 10.25 Thunderbirds, 11.20 Tarzan.

BORDER

9.40 am Untamed World, 10.05 Tarzan, 5.45 Chaps, 7.45 Film: Murphy's 9.45 News and Sport, 11.00 The Streets of San Francisco: The Thirty-Year Pin.

CENTRAL

9.20 am Sesame Street, 10.20 Falcon Island, 10.45 Sunray, 11.15 The Record, 11.45 International Bowls, 5.45 Chaps, 7.45 Saturday Cinema: March On Dr. Gene Heckman, 11.00 News, 11.30 John Bynar, 11.30 Johnny Madish in Concert in Germany, 7.45 Weather.

CHANNEL

5.05 pm National News followed by Channel Islands Weather Summary, 5.15 Puffin's Play, 5.20 The Brady Bunch, 5.45 News and Sport, 6.15 Mr Martin (Film), 9.45 National News and Sport followed by Channel Islands Weather Summary, 11.15 Bizarre 12.15 Video Songs, Q-Tips, 12.30 "The Company Baby Sitters, 12.25 Weather.

GRAMPIAN

9.10 am Fingal, 9.30 The Flying Kiwi, 10.00 Tarzan, 10.05 Welcome Back Kotter, 9.45 pm ITV News followed by Area Weather Forecast, 11.00 Reflections, 11.05 Thriller "The Canadian Killer".

GRANADA

9.35 am Vatch 1st The Flying Kiwi, 9.50 The Undersea Adventures of Captain Nemo, 9.55 Sport, 10.15 Sesame Street, 6.45 Chaps, 7.45 Murphy's War, 10.00 News, 11.00 The Star and the Story, 11.20 Two Mules for Sister Sarah, 9.55 am The Adventures of Black Beauty, 10.20 Sesame Street, 12.13 pm HTV News, 12.15 The Palace Presents, 12.40-12.50 As HTV West except 9.55 am-10.20 am Razzmatazz, 5.15-5.45 Six a Sian.

HTV

9.55 am The Adventures of Black Beauty, 10.20 Sesame Street, 12.13 pm HTV News, 12.15 The Palace Presents, 12.40-12.50 As HTV West except 9.55 am-10.20 am Razzmatazz, 5.15-5.45 Six a Sian.

SCOTTISH

9.20 am Vicky Vicking, 9.45 Thunderbirds, 10.25 Saturday morning picture show, 5.45 Chaps, 11.00 Bizarre, 11.30 Late Call, 11.35 The Streets of San Francisco.

TSW

9.05 am Wheelie and the Chopper Bunch, 9.20 The Saturday Show, 10.30 The Incredible Hulk, 11.20 Sport Billy, 12.12 pm TSW Regional News, 5.20 The Brady Bunch, 5.45 Sale of the Century, 6.15 News, 6.45 Chaps, 7.45 Murphy's War, 10.00 News, 11.00 Bizarre, 11.30 Video Songs, Q-Tips, 12.30 "The Company Baby Sitters, 12.25 Weather.

TVS

9.15 am Saturday Brief, 9.20 Sesame Street, 10.20 Sport Billy, 11.45 Film Bizarre, 5.15 pm TVS News, 5.50 The Incredible Hulk, 11.00 The Two of Us, 11.30 Star Parade, 12.30 am Company.

TVV

9.00 am Story Hour, 9.55 Cartoon Time, 10.05 Joe 90, The Big Fish, 10.30 Saturday Morning Movie "Dimension 5", 12.13 pm North East News, 5.15 North East News, 5.45 Chaps, 7.45 The Incredible Hulk, 11.00 The Two of Us, 11.30 Star Parade, 12.30 am Company.

ULSTER

10.00 am Sesame Street, 11.00 The Flying Kiwi, 11.25 Thunderbirds, 5.15 Ulster News, 5.45 Chaps, 5.50 Ulster News, 11.00 Barney Miller, 11.30 News at Bedtime.

YORKSHIRE

9.00 am Here's Boomer, 9.20 Thunderbirds, 10.10 The Adventures of Black Beauty, 10.35 The Saturday

Morning Picture Show: "Raid on Rommel", 9.45 pm The Incredible Hulk, 11.00 Bizarre, 11.30 Star Parade.

RADIO 1

(S) Stereophonic broadcast. 5.00 am As Radio 2, 7.00 Wake up to the Weekend, 8.00 Tony Blackburn's Sunday Show, 10.00 Paul McCartney, 1.00 pm Adrian Justic, 2.00 A King in New York (S), 2.05 Paul McCartney, 4.00 Saturday Night is Galt Night (S), 5.00 Rock On, 5.30 In Concert (S).

RADIO 2

5.00 am Tony Brandon (S), 8.05 David Jacobs (S), 10.00 Sacha Distel, 11.00 News, 11.

HIGH-TECHNOLOGY WARFARE

First test of a modern navy

By Bridget Bloom, Defence Correspondent

Bad days for formal dress

THESE ARE not the best of times to be seen in public wearing a black coat and striped trousers, the quietly elegant uniform of lawyers, bankers and diplomats. Lawyers have never been any more popular than dentists; we all hope to keep out of their hands. However, the low standing of bankers and diplomats is something new. Until recently they have been regarded as the flower of British professionalism; but now their expertise is no longer taken for granted and, still worse, they are suspected of being wobbly on patriotism.

In such emotional times, such things are liable to happen, for neither group is equipped to realise our dreams, as we sometimes demand. They deal in realities, and it is when they fall here that it really matters. The recent conduct of the Foreign Office can be left to the post-mortem which is bound to follow the end of the Falklands crisis. The bankers unfortunately face a more pressing inquisition.

Disasters

The City's fear of the freeze on Argentine transactions, and the underlying fear of a default, is not just a matter of bad debts, as Sir Jeremy Morse, chairman of Lloyds Bank, the most exposed in the Argentine, made clear in his annual statement this week. An Argentine default would be painful but manageable if it were an isolated event. The danger is that it would not be isolated.

Sir Jeremy also spoke of the need for flexible treatment of Polish debt; again, the City appears to protect the interests of an odious regime. However, Poland and Argentina together represent potential bad debts of well over \$50bn; and beyond these two stand a long line of potential disasters among the Communist economies, the developing countries, and some of the newly-improvised oil producers.

Casualties

The present debt crisis can be seen, without stretching hope too far, as temporary. The present world combination of deep recession with crippling high real interest rates appears to be a painful aberration. If the problem debtors can be kept afloat for the duration, either falling interest rates or reviving earnings will, it is hoped, see them through.

It is a desperately difficult interval, all the same. In the U.S. one quite widely known company failed with debts of over \$400m last week, and Fidelity Mutual, a major savings and mortgage institution on the West Coast, collapsed. Even the

Administration admits that there are likely to be bigger casualties before it is all over; indeed the American banking industry is far more worried about business risk than it is about international lending.

Containable

The central banks of the world are therefore now fully preoccupied with what amount to lifeboat operations. As in the property crisis in this country in 1974, the politicians might welcome some exemplary defaults, but the bankers feel it necessary to err on the side of caution, even if as a result they stand accused of protecting unacceptable capitalists (in 1974) or unacceptable regimes now.

The professional consensus is that the banking problem remains perfectly containable, though it may leave a nasty hole in the profit and loss account. There is not a whole series of unforeseen crises such as the Falklands affair. But the situation has important implications for the future, and suggests lessons to be drawn from the past.

The future implication is that even if interest rates do fall sharply, as many now expect, the recession could persist. In the international market, bankers are already talking openly of a credit contraction, in which not even credit-worthy borrowers can find funds. This is not only because banks are now extremely cautious in their lending policies; the market for deposits is also tight—a major reason for high short-term rates.

Permissive

The collapse of the Opec surplus has cut off one major flow of new deposits; but it is the increasing quest for safety by other potential depositors which prevents the gap from being filled. The pattern of flows in Britain, where the Government has over-funded its own borrowing and the authorities are re-funding the money markets, is being repeated in different forms in other countries.

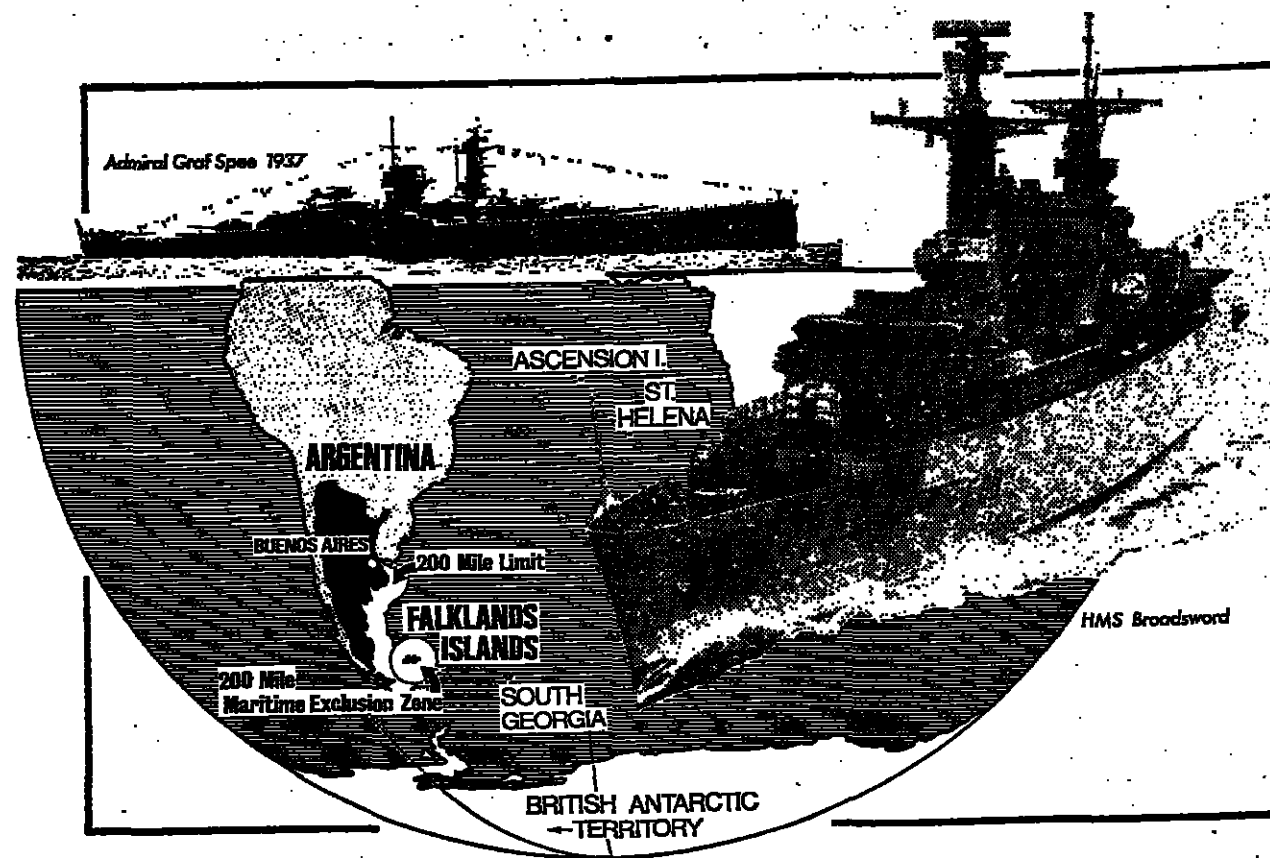
Why is a modest deflation— for monetary targets are no longer tight in real terms—producing such pain? The answer seems to be that central banks were far too permissive in more inflationary times. The so-called "triumph" of recycling was in fact an episode of unsound banking, when short-term deposits were re-lent at long term to vulnerable borrowers; the need to keep these borrowers afloat is now crowding out recovery. The bigger the binge, the worse the hangover—but the less the temptation to over-indulge again.

WHEN the Royal Navy was last involved in a war off the coast of Argentina, one of its three cruisers was led to its target by the sight of smoke on the horizon. The enemy warship—the German Graf Spee—was hunted by the most powerful British warship there, an eight-inch gun cruiser.

That was in December 1939, when World War Two was barely three months old. The German "pocket" battleship's 11-inch guns in fact wreaked severe damage on the British ship, although the Graf Spee was finally forced to flee and was scuttled to avoid capture. In 1982, if the British naval task force now sailing southwards towards the Falkland Islands is required to go into action against the Argentine Navy, the scene is likely to be very different. In the intervening forty odd years, naval warfare has been virtually revolutionised by advances in radar, in communications, in weaponry and in the use of aircraft and helicopters in a maritime role.

Rear Admiral John Woodward, commander of what could become a 50-ship armada, will first learn the position of an "enemy" warship from information gathered by satellite, or from a high-flying American or British Nimrod reconnaissance jet aircraft. The Argentine ship would be kept under surveillance by those means, and if it was decided that the vessel should be attacked, the weapon chosen would no longer be a gun but a missile from an ever-growing range of submarine-launched, ship-to-ship or air-launched missiles. In current naval armories.

Down in the South Atlantic, it may be that Admiral Woodward would order the preparation for firing of one of his 20-ft-long French-built Exocet ship-to-ship missiles. These



binoculars has become a mass of data from an array of sensors—radio, radar, infra-red, sonar—which would overwhelm the mind were it not sifted by computers.

Any engagement in the Atlantic will be fought using the Navy's Action Data Automation Weapons system. The version installed in the carrier Invincible is believed to provide the operations room deep in the ship with a three-dimensional picture of where the enemy is in the air, on the surface, and underneath the sea.

The data explosion does not only concern the unseen enemy. Admiral Woodward will also benefit from, and be burdened by, Command Control and Communications, or "C-cubed" in the jargon. He will constantly know the dispositions and actions of every unit under his command. He will be in constant touch with London through the Skynet satellite communications system—and through London with the British submarines underneath him.

And the proliferation of all these flows of information breeds its own form of electronic warfare—the jamming and interception of enemy communications, the use of Electronic Counter Measures to distract and confuse the enemy when he attacks.

While there is little doubt Britain's task force is as modern as can be assembled outside the super powers, how relevant is it for the tasks it may be asked to perform in the South Atlantic? And what problems will it face as it sails down into some of the roughest sea conditions to be met anywhere?

The main purpose of the task force, as Mrs Thatcher, the Prime Minister, made clear in the Commons debate last Wednesday, is to give strength to Britain's diplomatic effort to secure the withdrawal of the Argentines from the Falkland Islands. "The bigger the force, the less likelihood that it will be used" is certainly part of the Government's philosophy just now. For its part, the Ministry of Defence seems to be planning for a campaign that could last months, not weeks.

What is the strategy? Lord

miles of the Falklands—possibly 10 days from now. The aim of this "air exclusion zone" would be to deny Argentina's Hercules C130 transport aircraft the use of the sole airport of Port Stanley. The Defence Ministry said yesterday that it was now convinced that the 4,000 ft runway there had not been lengthened, which most experts agree means that Argentina would not be able to use its French-built Mirage fighters to escort the Hercules in.

"In my judgment the air and sea exclusion zones could

be established 100 per cent without casualties to our own forces," Lord Hill-Norton said yesterday. With "iron clad defence" established round his carriers, Admiral Woodward would then sit tight, with the Government in London hoping that a combination of Falklands blockade, economic sanctions and continuing diplomatic pressure against Argentina itself would result in a settlement.

If it did not, experts believe Admiral Woodward would probably be ordered to recapture South Georgia, an operation which would, Admiral Hill-Norton believes, not be particularly difficult for the estimated 23,000 marine commandos with the force. South Georgia, inhospitable and sub-arctic though it is, would then provide a forward operating base with landing for helicopters and possibly for the 20-40 Harrier vertical take-off and landing aircraft with the force as well as anchorage for some vessels, all outside the range of Argentinian shore-based aircraft.

The recapture of South Georgia could also provide the troops with a useful exercise before the final phase— invasion of the Falklands themselves. Obviously the Government hopes that a settlement before that is necessary. Experts disagree on how far the Argentines have been or will be able to reinforce the islands, which in turn would affect the degree of danger to life involved in their recapture.

But if the task force, now sailing south, is in most respects highly capable, there are also weak points. Some are of a general nature—stemming, for example, from the hugely long supply lines 8,000 miles back to Europe. Others derive from the highly sophisticated nature of the ships and their weapon systems.

The Government's concern with the supply problem—"a staff planners nightmare" as one officer put it—is already obvious from the large number of tankers and other support ships commanded. Another considerable problem is the onset in the next two or three weeks of severe winter conditions in the South Atlantic.

The suggestion that the British force will arrive and, like Napoleon before Moscow, be ultimately defeated by the weather, is no doubt far fetched. But the South Atlantic sees some of the nastiest conditions, with heavy seas and gale force winds often very low visibility and, around South Georgia, icebergs. Potential problems range from corrosion in ships and aircraft not conditioned for such weather to the likelihood of weather-induced delays and immobility.

Three different problems might arise as a result of the sophistication of weaponry. The first is that the extreme accuracy and speed of the new missiles—ironically makes them a rather blunt weapon in a blockade where what might be wanted is an old-fashioned warning shot across the bows of, for example, a merchantman. Many modern warships have no guns at all, and those that do have automatic, rapid-firing weapons more suitable for ship defence.

A second problem involves the Swiftsure class submarines currently enforcing the MEZ. These are the "Bois-Beyers" of the RN's submarines—fast, deep and long diving because nuclear-powered and ideal for their normal job of hunting and, if necessary, killing Russian submarines in the east and north Atlantic. They are much less happy in the relatively shallow and sonically confused waters of the continental shelf around Argentina and the Falklands. Their armament of Tigerfish torpedoes are likewise "blunt" instruments in a blockade situation.

These two examples lead on to a third, broader problem: setting military establishments almost everywhere—that of technological overkill. The war-

'Blunt' instruments in a blockade situation

pony being deployed by both sides around the Falklands may be excessively complex for the job in hand.

If the Argentine and British navies do fight, it will be the first time that the new weaponry, ships and communications have ever been tested in battle—in the South Atlantic or anywhere else. While this fact alone leads to a certain ambivalence (many people, from admirals to arms salesmen, will be fascinated to see how the new systems actually perform. It will be surprising if the whole Falklands exercise does not strengthen the hands of those who insist that "more, cheaper, and simpler" should be the rule for military planners in the future.

Letters to the Editor

Nato

From Mr P. Bathurst
Sir—The article "Nato and nuclear dependence" by Ian Davidson (April 14) was very interesting, and while it went some way to help, no one seems to have carried the ideas far enough forward.

The major issues centred round the lack of manpower within conventional forces, and the high cost of both conventional and nuclear weaponry, hence the cost of Trident was sited as an example.

There is a simple way round these problems, and it is a lesson which we should have learned from the Warsaw Pact countries. The basic idea we have always to remember is that Europe must stand together and not as separate entities.

What is required is a central "piggy bank" policy, rather along the lines of the EEC budget, with of course a more amiable set of governing rules. Each European Nato partner puts its defence budget into this piggy bank, and a Nato army is developed. This has several advantages, notably standardisation of equipment, and making sure no overlaps occur.

Similarly, remembering still that it is Europe that is threatened, not just one country, we should develop a Nato nuclear deterrent. Britain is considering buying Trident at a cost estimated in excess of £8bn. Spread this cost round all the Nato partners and we get just as much protection for a fraction of the cost.

The idea, as has been espoused by some, that Nato may collapse within the next few decades and hence UK needs a deterrent of its own, is not to be considered. Mankind is growing in stature every year and it is not possible to conceive of another European war. It is likely that over the next 50 or so years countries will grow closer as travel and TV bring people to each other. What is likely to happen is the divergence of U.S. and Europe which will mean

that the above policy will become even more relevant.
Paul W. Bathurst,
Charnwood,
Portsmouth Road,
Hindhead, Surrey

Falklands

From the Chairperson,
Milton Keynes Peace Campaign
Sir—It seems to us a tragic thing that Britain can set sail for battle in National Peace Week. We therefore welcome the more realistic view of the Falklands crisis which is now being taken by some members of Parliament. They are beginning to realise that islanders and possibly thousands of troops will lose their lives if we take the islands by storm.

Any military success—and there is no guarantee that it will—will be accompanied by sunken ships and heavy losses on the landing forces. And the massive effort to defend the recaptured islands could never be sustained.

The economic costs of the operation—the transport costs, equipment costs, and the costs of a trade embargo—are almost enough to make millionaires of every Falklander.

We must abandon all plans for a military encounter and pursue energetically every opportunity for reaching a negotiated long-term settlement through the UN.

We are told by the Foreign Secretary that "Britain does not appease dictators." Yet the Argentinian navy has several warships bought from Britain, and earlier this year Britain provided training facilities in Wales for the same navy. Until British foreign policy is based on peace and justice we must expect to be at the mercy of the dictators we help to sustain. Anne Watson.

I. Martin Close, Neath Hill
Milton Keynes, Bucks.
From Mr C. Petrow
Sir—There is an eminently sensible solution to the Falkland Islands problem which I commend to the attention of

the interested parties as soon as the immediate crisis has been resolved. It is, quite simply, to transform the islands into an international wildlife refuge.

The Falkland Islands harbour one of the richest and most interesting concentrations of birdlife of any place in the world. Among the hundreds of thousands of birds which breed there are five species of penguin and some notable species of waterfowl, including the flying steamer-duck and the Falklands flightless steamer-duck.

The British and Argentine Governments should be persuaded to renounce their claim to the islands, sovereignty over which would then be vested in one of the specialised agencies of the UN, which would turn the islands over to the World Wildlife Fund to administer as a wildlife refuge. No change in the lifestyle of the Falkland Islanders would be necessary. They have lived in harmony with their avian neighbours up to now and there is no reason why they should not continue to do so. It should not be difficult to devise a statute of local self-government under which they could administer their own affairs. A programme of visits by ornithologists and bird-watchers could be an additional source of income for them.

At the sacrifice of a claim over territory which has no economic or strategic value to either of them, Britain and Argentina would earn the admiration and gratitude of those millions of citizens of the world for whom preservation of our natural heritage has become a matter of paramount concern. Chris G. Petrow,
25 St James's Street, SW1

From Mr G. Moffat
Sir—Some of your recent correspondents should be reminded that the British Empire was built by trade and it is by trade that the UK will survive and prosper. Military action will in the end only serve to damage for decades our trading prospects in Argentina and in other parts of Latin America. The Falkland Islands were

at one time used as a coaling station for the British Fleet but in 1982 the logic of British sovereignty is difficult to argue bearing in mind their remoteness from the UK and their inevitable dependence on Argentina for fuel, air services and communications, etc.

As far as the islanders themselves are concerned, any who wished to leave could be compensated generously at a fraction of the cost that a military excursion would incur.

Finally, I believe comparisons with Neville Chamberlain and Munich are not relevant to this situation and only serve to mask the real issues.

G. A. M. Moffat,
Wilmot,
Hill Lane,
Moberley, Cheshire.

Late

From Mr N. Smith
Sir—When companies and their secretaries come to consider the type of underhand practice described by Mr R. Adams (April 8) I wonder if the plight of overseas shareholders might also be borne in mind.

An Australian-based company gave notice of its AGM on February 29, posted the notice on February 29, held its AGM on February 29 and the notice, report, etc arrived at my home on April 4 thus effectively disenfranchising the shareholder. Is this a record? Would such companies consider using air-mail post please.
N. F. C. Smith,
Vines Farmhouse,
Stanton, Gloucester.

Stubs

From Mr C. Olding
Sir—As a Lloyds Bank customer of 30 years' standing, I was interested to read the article of April 10 particularly as I have just received one of the new cheque books. I was not a contributor to the bank's consumer research but I have for some time felt that this new type of "stub" might have advantages. My wife and I get through about eight cheque

books a year between us on our joint account and I find the traditional stubs bulky and awkward to store. It should be possible to file the new type easily with the statement.

As for the colour and style of the new cheques, I still have the first cheque I ever drew (in January 1952) and can therefore vouch for the fact that the bank's cheques have remained essentially unchanged at least since then, unlike almost every other bank. To me, colour and style are relatively unimportant but nevertheless I find the new cheques quite attractive. If they result in reduced costs to the bank and the holding of charges at present levels for longer, I shall find that even more attractive!

C. Olding,
Bishop's Green Farmhouse,
Newbury, Berkshire.

Woodworking

From the General Secretary,
Furniture, Timber and Allied Trades Union

Sir—We are concerned regarding the report (Building and Civil Engineering, April 5) relating to the protest of the British Woodworking Federation against prison production of doors for commercial sale.

While we fully endorse the BWF's opposition to this practice, we regret its suggestion that prisoners should instead be engaged in the making of kitchen cabinet doors, on the ground that they are mostly imported. If such import-substitution is to take place, the substitute articles should be produced by non-prison labour in ordinary factory workshops.

The furniture and woodworking industries generally are in an extremely depressed state. The severe recession of 1980, was followed by a further deterioration in 1981. We have carried out two surveys, by means of questionnaires to our organisers, of the situation in the furniture, timber and allied industries. The first revealed that, in the first 10 months of 1980, there had been 132 factory closures,

over 10,000 jobs had been lost and over 15,000 workers had been put on short-time working. The second survey, carried out last year, indicated that there had been a further 73 closures, another 6,000 of our members made redundant and in the region of another 7,000 put on short-time working. This is the truly appalling situation with which we are faced.

Department of Employment figures show that between December 1979 and December 1981 employment in the timber industry fell by about 19 per cent, while the fall in furniture and upholstery was in the region of 21.5 per cent.

Over two years ago we made representations on this matter to the prison authorities. We also expressed our view at the 1980 Trades Union Congress, where we submitted a resolution on the subject. While provision of facilities for rehabilitation of offenders is to be welcomed, we deplore the production in prisons, on terms grossly inferior to those specified in relevant industry collective agreements, of articles for sale in the commercial market.

B. Rubner,
Fairfields,
Roe Green,
Kingsbury, NW9

Trusts

From Mr C. Donald

Sir—Surely in his article on April 10 Tim Dickson should have been still more critical of certain trust managers. Had their selection of holdings been more discriminating, the trusts would be a splendid bargain to a big buyer at a discount of 25 per cent or even much less. For some years now these managers have had every encouragement to improve their performance. Not having done so, their only fair and reasonable course would seem to be to offer their shareholders liquidation, enabling them to re-invest in something more rewarding.
C. R. C. Donald,
55 Geraldine Road,
Malvern, Worcs.

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Patrick Cockburn, in Jerusalem, reports on the growing uproar in Israel's largest occupied territory

The political vacuum on the West Bank

"WITH ALL these simmering crises, something is bound to go pop," a diplomat said gloomily in Tel Aviv last week. "There are a host of nasty possibilities all waiting to happen." He was referring to the Palestinian unrest on the West Bank, last-minute Israeli hesitations over withdrawal from Sinai, and Prime Minister Menachem Begin's oft-repeated threat to invade southern Lebanon.

In the event, the unexpected happened. Early on Easter Sunday morning, an Israeli soldier of American origin, named Alan Goodman, burst through a gate on Temple Mount in Jerusalem. He cut down the police and guards with a few bursts from his M-16 automatic rifle, and ran to the Dome of the Rock Mosque, the third holiest shrine in Islam, where he killed a guard trying to close the door. By the time Goodman ran out of ammunition, he was surrounded by Israeli soldiers, Moslems were pouring from their close-packed houses in the Old City of Jerusalem to protect their shrines on Temple Mount, where traditionally only Moslems are allowed to worship. A bloody riot followed.

In a few moments' shooting, Goodman had provided a simple focus for all the resentment felt by Palestinians against Israelis and Moslems against Jews. Perhaps he intended to do just this, and, if so, he succeeded.

On Easter Monday, a seven-day strike started in Jerusalem, and the occupied territories of the West Bank and Gaza. Of the tens of thousands of pilgrims and tourists in Jerusalem for Easter and the Passover, only a few of the hardier dared walk the narrow alleys of the Old City crowded behind its medieval wall. Two days later, much of the Moslem world responded to a call for a solidarity strike from King Khalid of Saudi Arabia. Something, in the words of the diplomat, had gone pop.

For Arabs, the attack on their holiest shrine symbolises what they see as their vulnerability to Israeli attack and their impotence to do anything about it. The local Moslem leadership in Jerusalem denounced the assault as the fruit of a conspiracy by extreme Zionists.

The Israeli Government sees the attack in more mundane terms. It says it was the work of a single, deranged individual, a tragic episode now concluded. It compares the shooting with the attempt to assassinate the Pope last year, or the takeover of the main mosque in Mecca by Moslem extremists in 1979. Mr Begin believes that Arab leaders at home and abroad are simply trying to make political mileage out of a lone gunman.

But the Easter morning shooting is likely to have much more long-term effects. It came at a time when the 1.1m Palestinians on the West Bank and in the Gaza Strip were already in uproar. The gut religious issue of defence of the holy Moslem shrines cements the unity of radical and conservative Palestinians and provides a focus for their resentment. In many villages, young demonstrators now shout: "Allah Akbar—"God is great—"rather than "Palestine is Arab," or similar nationalistic slogans.

Since Mr Menachem Begin came to power as a right-wing Prime Minister in 1977, the Palestinians have felt under increasing threat. Most members of his ruling coalition are committed to retaining absolute control of the West Bank—officially called Judea and Samaria—and Gaza. This is not merely as a cordoned area, but as a part of the historic land of Israel.

Since 1977 the number of Israeli settlements has been stepped up with strong encouragement from Mr Ariel Sharon, Agriculture Minister up to 1981 and now Defence Minister. By the end of this



Mr Menachem Begin: determined to crush the PLO

summer there are scheduled to be 30,000 settlers in 102 settlements scattered along the Jordan Valley and the steep range of hills which separate it from the Mediterranean. It is the settlement policy more than anything else which has increased Palestinian militancy. Many fear that they will ultimately be expelled. By 1985 the plan is to increase the number of settlers to 100,000, in a not very large area. The whole of the West Bank takes only a few hours to drive from north to south, and is only about the same size as Luxembourg.

Some of the new settlements will be urban dormitories for Israelis working in the main

Muted Egyptian response in run up to Sinai handover

EGYPT IS determined that the current West Bank turmoil should not be allowed to affect the return by Israel of the final portion of Sinai on April 25. Although Egypt has deplored the violence and regretted Israel's unwillingness to make conciliatory gestures to the Palestinians living under occupation, it has been careful not to threaten or imply there will be any radical change of policy affecting the peace treaty after the Sinai handover.

Mr Walter Stoesel, the American Deputy Secretary of State, has been visiting Jerusalem and Cairo this week to help both sides resolve remaining problems and as a demonstration of U.S. commitment to the terms of the peace treaty.

But after April 25 most eyes are off President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt appears to see little point in continuing the unproductive talks on Palestinian autonomy for the West Bank and Gaza.

The Americans, who also suspect that Camp David has run its course, have yet to suggest any alternative form of diplomatic machinery. More extreme Israelis may therefore argue that the time is ripe for the West Bank to be incorporated formally into Israel proper.

Whether that happens may depend greatly on the assessments which are being made of President Mubarak and his Government. He undoubtedly wishes to rebuild bridges with more moderate Arab regimes and some of his key advisers have strong Palestinian sympathies.

But he will not wish to take any prelate policy decisions or to risk confrontation with Israel. The real test for Mr Mubarak and the durability of the peace treaty seems at the moment most likely to be posed by what happens over the coming months in the West Bank.

Roger Matthews

fore in quelling Palestinian demonstrations. Diplomats believe that these ragtag vigilantes form one of the greatest threats for widespread communal violence.

The settlements also appear to doom any prospect of Mr Begin's Government might have of encouraging a local Palestinian leadership which is not sympathetic to the Palestine Liberation Organisation. This probably never had much chance of success. A recent opinion poll, taken by a political scientist at Nablus University, showed 86 per cent of Palestinians in the occupied territories accept the PLO as their sole legitimate representative. While local conditions are hardly conducive to scientific accuracy, this survey is probably correct.

Yet, the new civil administration of the West Bank, established in December last year to replace the military government which ruled the area since 1967, is trying to create an alternative leadership. This is to be done by judicious use of patronage and funds to the Village Leagues, shadowy local organisations on the West Bank, whose Palestinian membership is prepared to co-operate with the Israelis and is hostile to the PLO.

The hope of Professor Menachem Milson, the new civil administrator of the West Bank, is that the leagues can be built up to replace the existing municipal organisation, which he sees as being under the control of PLO representatives elected in 1976. To this end, three of the most prominent West Bank mayors, including Mr Bassam Shaka of Nablus, the largest West Bank town, were dismissed last month. The reaction was two weeks of rioting, which left eight dead.

Overall, the situation in Jerusalem and the occupied territories now looks much worse than at any time since

1967. Demonstrations and strikes have spread to small villages previously passive.

"The solution in the area must be political and not military," said Gen Uri Orr, commander of the troops on the West Bank, earlier this week. "I can enforce order for a month or two, or half a year—no more—if this isn't accompanied by political processes."

But there are few signs that Mr Begin's Government has any realistic political solution in mind for the problems of the occupied territories. He is determined to prevent the creation of a Palestinian state and to try to crush the PLO at home and abroad. The result is that the lack of a coherent policy towards the Arabs under Israeli control leads to extremists filling the political vacuum.

This is particularly dangerous since Palestinians tend to see the hidden hand of the Israeli Government controlling the actions of extremist settlers and their mentors. Similarly, Mr Begin and his Government see the West Bank mayors and the local Palestinian leadership as being under the control of the PLO.

This increases the temptation for Mr Begin to seek to resolve the political difficulties on the West Bank by a military strike at PLO bases in southern Lebanon and Beirut. As a former guerrilla commander, he tends to think of politics in terms of sudden forays, surprise attacks, military or political, against his enemies, wherever they may be. But it is doubtful if a military clampdown on Palestinians at home or an attack on the PLO in Lebanon would achieve very much. A political solution would still be needed. But so long as the present vacuum of policy continues, the opportunity is there for relations between Israelis and Palestinians to be determined by a lone, determined gunman, like Alan Goodman.

Weekend Brief

An effective U.S. weapon for nuclear disarmers?

U.S. publishers seem to find Armageddon attractive. A year or so ago, their lists were full of books about an imminent financial collapse. Today, they are concentrating on a grimmer

type of holocaust. About 40 books on nuclear issues are expected to hit the bookshops in the coming months—a remarkable tribute to the surge of concern about nuclear warfare which is currently under way in the U.S.

The titles range from the cute *Nuclear War: What's in it for You?* To the portentous *Radiation and Human Health*. But one already stands out above the others as a potential best seller. Jonathan Schell's *The Fate of the Earth* has picked up an extraordinary volume of publicity for a book which is not officially due to be published by Alfred A. Knopf until the end of the month. As a result, the initial print run has been extended to 75,000 copies; the Book of the Month Club has decided to offer it to its 1m plus members at cost (\$2.25); and

foreign publishers have been falling over themselves to pick up the rights. It is scheduled to be published in Britain simultaneously by Cape and Pan in early June—which just happens to be the time when the UN debate on nuclear disarmament is expected to be under way.

Originally published in the New Yorker magazine earlier this year, Schell's book is a powerful blend of science, moral philosophy, and undiluted emotion. The Wall Street Journal, which has strong views on these matters, said it was nonsense. But most of the other early reviews have ranged from the reverent to the ecstatic. The publishers, with a due sense of modesty, suggest that it "may someday be looked back upon as a crucial event in the history of human thought."

The Fate of the Earth is divided into three long sections. The first gives a terrifyingly vivid picture of the potential impact of a nuclear holocaust, and suggests that there is at least a chance it would end in the extinction of the human species. The second tackles a number of fundamental questions which are raised by the possibility that the living can stop future generations from entering into life. The third concludes that only by taking positive efforts to forestall nuclear warfare can we avoid sinking into a kind of lethargy which must end in disaster.

Schell has aimed the book directly at those readers who would prefer not to think about the possibilities. It could prove an effective weapon in the hands of nuclear disarmers everywhere.

Horse sponsors jump up-market

Among the many thousands who will flock into the Duke of Beaufort's beautiful park at Badminton in Gloucestershire this weekend for the annual Three-Day Event Horse Trials championships, few will notice—unless they read their programmes carefully—that a significant new trend is emerging in this branch of equestrianism. It is commercial sponsorship.

Out of more than 100 horses originally entered for this premier event in the British Horse Trials calendar (the number of runners this weekend has been whittled down to 79), no less than 31 are sponsored by commercial and industrial organisations.

While show-jumping, with its extensive TV coverage, has had commercial sponsorship for years (Sanyo, Everest Double Glazing and the Norwich Union Insurance group spring to mind out of scores), it is only comparatively recently that it has spread into Three-Day Eventing, the up-market end of equestrianism.

The Midland Bank has been for a long time the great patron of this branch of riding in Britain, sponsoring with cash prizes and other financial help over 100 specific events through the country this year alone.

But as it is now happening is that commercial companies are moving in to sponsor individual



Lucinda Green (née Prior-Palmer) takes a plunge last August. Although the jump carries a Midland Bank logo, her horse is sponsored by Overseas Containers

horses and riders, and the trend is accelerating. The sums involved are rarely disclosed, being privately agreed between sponsors and riders. But for a three-year deal, covering two or three horses, it can amount to as much as £100,000, although in practice most arrangements are for much smaller sums. The horse is entered for an event under the sponsor's name as owner, and the rider is helped considerably with the heavy burden of costs, but there is no question of any personal income being derived by the rider from such sponsorship.

Running a Three-Day Event horse can be expensive, costing several thousand pounds for a top-class performer if feeding, stabling, equipment, farriers' and vets' bills and transport costs (especially to overseas events) are all taken into account.

Sponsorship benefits both sides—the riders being relieved of financial worry and left free to concentrate on riding and, they hope, winning, and the sponsors gaining much publicity, especially with top-class riders and horses who win national and international honours. There can be few who have not heard already of Overseas Containers' sponsorship of Lucinda Green (née Prior-Palmer), with such horses as Bungle Bay and Village Gossey, and Range Rover's sponsorship of Captain Mark Phillips with Classic Lines and other mounts.

Many others can be mentioned, including British National Insurance, Planters Nuts and Preci-Spark, and the list seems likely to grow, as costs continue to rise inexorably. Most sports are under heavy financial pressures, and Three-Day Eventing is no exception. Commercial sponsorship is a welcome means of relief

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Penguins in danger of being picked off

More than 4m penguins on two privately owned islands in the Falklands—described by their owner in the Cotswolds as a unique wildlife sanctuary—are at risk from military operations in the area and in the long term could possibly be slaughtered for commercial purposes.

Grand Jason and Steeple Jason Islands, on the north-west tip of the Falklands group, were purchased for £3,500 in 1970 by Mr Leonard Hill who also founded the well known Birdland wildlife park at Bourton-on-the-Marsh in Gloucestershire. Mr Hill died at the age of 70 in December on a

flight returning from the Falklands. The ownership of the islands passed to his son, Mr Richard Hill, and in accordance with his father's wishes, the deeds to the Jasons have been handed over to the Jason Islands Trust, set up with the backing of the naturalists Sir Peter Scott.

Mr Hill's immediate fears are that naval action in the area would almost certainly lead to oil pollution which could destroy much of the penguin and wildlife population. In addition, the strategic position of the islands could result in landing there or their use for a radar station.

He is also concerned about the activities of a private Argentinian company, Ronode Penguins SA, which is reported to have killed large quantities of penguins in Patagonia for export of skins and meat to Japan. It is also understood that

this company is seeking to have the Argentinian laws covering penguin killing relaxed further, which in the long term could threaten the Jasons colony, which has increased rapidly since sheep were removed from the islands in 1970.

Mr Hill believes that if the Argentinians retain control of the Falklands, the private ownership of the Jasons would be respected, but he is also aware of the possibility that it might not.

Mr Hill hopes to visit the islands for the first time in November to scatter his father's ashes, as he had requested. He will also take from Birdland to the Jasons the first Black Browed Albatross known to have been bred in captivity.

The bird was artificially hatched at Birdland recently from an egg brought from an unattended nest by his 15-year-old son Michael, who was travelling on the same flight as Mr Leonard Hill when he died.

The family have a strong attachment to the islands, and Mr Hill is critical of their "neglect" by the British Government.

Mr Hill said: "As a wildlife conservationist, I am acutely aware of the dangers which threaten this wonderful archipelago. It is not just the profusion of penguins, albatrosses and wild geese, nor the warm hospitality of the people. The sheltered inlets and rugged coastline, the dramatic wrecks, the bright sunshine and keen winds, all combine to make the Falklands what they are and to make them eminently worthy of our attention."

Contributors:
Richard Lambert
Michael Donne
Lorne Barling

Economic Diary

TOMORROW: Department for National Savings' monthly progress report for March.

MONDAY: Provisional retail sales figures for March. Industrial and commercial companies' capital account and EEC budget. Equipment for fourth quarter. The Houses of Parliament reconvene. European Parliament starts five-day session in Strasbourg. M. Gaston Thorn, President of the EEC, meets Mr Francis Pym, Foreign Secretary, in London to discuss EEC budget. Western banks discuss rescheduling of Romanian debt in New York. NUS meets Sealink and

BR. TUESDAY: EEC Agriculture Ministers start three-day meeting in Luxembourg on price proposals. Spain expected to lift blockade on Gibraltar. Timetable motion in Commons on the Employment Bill. WEDNESDAY: Cyclical indicators for the UK economy for March. Indices of average earnings for February. Indices of basic rates of wages in March. Publication of the Queen's awards for export and technology. Mr Francis Pym, Foreign Secretary, attends Easter banquet at Mansion House. Commons debates Government expenditure plans White Paper. U.S. issues first quarter GNP. The Henley Centre for Forecasting conference on "Exchange Rates in the Eighties" at the London Press Centre.

THURSDAY: New construction orders for February. Preliminary estimate of consumers' expenditure for first quarter. Publication of first quarter requirements for borrowing requirement

and details of local authority borrowing in first quarter. Sir Geoffrey Howe, Chancellor of the Exchequer, speaks on budget and business opportunities at Sandown Park Racecourse. Malaysian general election. NAFF 1982 annual conference in Bournemouth (until April 25). International Ideal Homes exhibition opens at the NEC, Birmingham (until May 3). FRIDAY: Retail prices index for March. Tax and price index for March. New vehicle registrations for March. Sales and orders in the engineering industries in January.

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4.3	-2.3	-8	to 5	23.1	18.0	-2.1	+ 0.2		
7.4	6.9	10.2		3	to 14	33.3	45.4	12.1	+ 1.9

rable. 1 The extra cost of investment in convertible expressed as per cent of the market value of ordinary shares into which £100 nominal of convertible stock is convertible.
2 This is income on £100 nominal of convertible or the final dividend whichever is greater.
3 Per annum and is greater.
4 Per annum.
5 This is income of the convertible less income of the underlying security.
6 Between the premium and income difference expressed as per cent of the value of the convertible.
7 Second date is assumed date of conversion. This is not

Early small gains on Wall St

SOUTHERN SMALL gains were further on Wall Street yesterday, with much of the support coming from a renewal of takeover speculation in the Energy sector.

By mid-day the Dow Jones Industrial Average was up another 1.62 at 841.33, reducing its loss on the week to 1.71, while the NYSE All Common Index, at 387.05, rose 9 cents on the day and 16 cents on the week. Advances led declines by a seven-to-five majority in a volume of 25.89m shares.

Energy stock prices jumped following the news late Thursday that Aetna Life will acquire the 71 per cent of Geosource shares it does not already own through an exchange of stock valued at \$63.9m.

Geosource soared \$12 to \$50 in the morning, while Aetna fell \$4 to \$43, both in active trading.

During the Conoco and Marathon oil takeover battles, stocks of several other Natural Resource firms also gained ground as investors speculated that they would be the next acquisition target. The same pattern appeared in the market yesterday.

Gains were recorded by General American Oil, up \$12 to \$53, North American Coal \$12 to \$30, Superior Oil \$1 to \$29.1, Gulf Oil \$1 to \$38.1 and, Tesoro \$1 to \$24.1.

Higher earnings pushed up Communications Satellite by \$1 to \$60.1, while Merck rose \$1 to \$73.4 despite lower financial results.

Stazon Industries dropped \$1 to \$17—Thursday the firm filed for bankruptcy.

Omnicare declined \$2 to \$25 on the news that American Medical International will not renew its pharmacy contracts with the company.

In active trading, volume leader Tenneco shed \$1 to \$28.1, but General Dynamics improved \$1 to \$29.1.

Closing prices for North America were not available for this edition.

THE AMERICAN SE Market Value Index eased 0.45 to 273.03, reducing its rise on the week to 2.27. Volume 21.0m shares.

Canada

Stocks were lower at mid session, with the Toronto Composite Index retreating 7.1 points to 1,613.1.

The Gold Share Index lost 35.1 to 2070.2, while the S&P 500 fell 280.65, while Utilities eased 0.23 to 205.12 and Banks 0.10 to 310.67.

Norcan Energy, involved in a battle for U.S. based Hanna Mining, firmed \$1 to \$24.1. Analysts said Hanna's Court action is only a delaying tactic and it is doubtful whether the firm will be successful in blocking the bid.

Phoenix Bank was halted in early trading after rising \$1 to \$13.1—its President knows of no reason for the activity in the stock.

Amsterdam

Mixed in quiet trading.

Yesterday's expiry dates for Federal Contracts of some Options led to slightly increased demand.

Higher profits and dividend announced by Amey boosted demand for Insurances with Amey up F15 2.20, Enxys F15 3.20 and Royal Indemnity results are due next week, rising F15 1.

Bos Kalls traded F15 18.40 lower at 45.20 after announcing more than halved 1981 profits and considering lower dividends.

State Loans slightly eased from lower opening results but were still below, Thursday's closing prices.

Germany

Prices staged a modest recovery, reflecting bargain hunting and pre-weekend buying, by professional traders.

Brokers pointed to the slight recovery in Bond prices as helping stabilise the market.

Banks, Stores and Motors

benefited from the bargain hunting, while Electricals and major Chemicals were little changed.

Australia

Thursday's sharp rise flushed out some sellers yesterday as markets finished the week slightly lower. Trading volume also fell.

The easier prices of Gold and Silver on International Commodities Exchanges was a factor in the quieter trading, and it was also clear that the end of the long Easter dealing Account in London had pumped some stock into markets from the UK.

Most of the key Gold and Silver Mines eased, but losses weren't very significant.

Markets appeared unsure about the CRA-Shaw Denko deal. CRA has paid \$A100m for a substantial holding in the Japanese Aluminium Group, which makes it more, or less, a captive customer of Comalco. CRA firmed to AS2.75 but Comalco shed 3 cents to \$A1.77.

G. J. Coles, up 11 cents to \$A2.17, performed best among the Retailers, and James Hardie starred in the Building Materials.

Oils were mixed to firm.

Singapore

Lower on lack of support in selective moderate trading, with sentiment generally depressed by lower Hong Kong advices. There was also caution ahead of Thursday's General Elections in Malaysia.

Among Properties, UOL headed upward in the morning but later fell back to \$S2.88 after a rise of 15 cents for 15 per cent of UOL, one of the major Singapore Banks, said in its annual report it realised a \$S233m surplus from a revaluation of its properties.

Among Industrials, Cold Storage shed 10 cents to 2.78 after Thursday group profits for 1981 were down in the year ended January. Group against the general trend, Keppel Shipyard rose 15 cents to \$S3.30.

Tokyo

Shares ended narrowly mixed after a day of thin trading, due to uncertainty over likely developments in the Falkland Islands dispute and Middle East tension.

The Market Average added 8.55 to 17,128.69 in a volume of 370m (190m) shares.

Export-oriented issues, "Large Capitals" and other market leaders fell initially on scattered Foreign sales, but recovered subsequently on local bargain hunting.

Gold Mines and other speculative were firm, while "cheaply priced" Domestic issues were bought selectively towards the close.

Matsushita Electric finished 51 up at 970, after falling 112 to 858.

Mitsubishi Heavy Industry shed 12 to 210 and Toyota Motor 12 to 311 after Ford said the U.S. it had held no talks with the Japanese affiliate, but a possible joint venture to make small cars in that country.

Hong Kong

A bearish speech by the Financial Secretary late Thursday triggered some selling, leaving many share prices lower in early thin dealings.

The Hang Seng Index fell 18.78 to 1,183.10 on combined turnover of HK\$710.1m (HK\$117.72m).

The Financial Secretary said that lower than expected exports might mean a slower rate of expansion in 1982. An analyst said that the news hit the Stock Market, where the fall off in exports had been ignored by many until now.

Switzerland

Steady to slightly lower, with few significant price changes.

Dealings started out during the session as investors squared their positions ahead of the long weekend. Monday is a holiday in the Canton of Zurich, and the Stock Market will be closed.

	Apr. 15	Apr. 15	Apr. 15	Apr. 15	Apr. 15	Apr. 15	Apr. 15	1982	(Since Comp'l'n)		
	Apr. 15	Apr. 15	Apr. 15	Apr. 15	Apr. 15	Apr. 15	Apr. 15	High	Low	High	Low
Indus'trials	633.91	638.08	641.04	641.37	642.94	638.36	682.62	785.47	1051.70	41.22	
H'me Bnds.	—	58.89	58.72	58.82	58.38	59.21	64.72	65.97	(111/70)	(67/63)	
Transport	344.32	345.34	348.64	347.47	348.24	344.58	398.46	614.88	647.39	72.32	
Utilities	112.76	112.67	111.62	111.83	111.82	110.10	111.24	116.24	(87/82)	(87/82)	
Trading Vol	45,830	45,150	48,660	44,790	50,180	53,100	61,124	126.24	20/439	33/432	
COO-1											
Days high	842.55	low	832.35								
Ind. div. yield %											
								6.61	6.64	6.84	5.84
STANDARD AND POORS											
	Apr. 15	Apr. 15	Apr. 15	Apr. 15	Apr. 15	Apr. 15	Apr. 15	1982	(Since Comp'l'n)		
	Apr. 15	Apr. 15	Apr. 15	Apr. 15	Apr. 15	Apr. 15	Apr. 15	High	Low	High	Low
Indus'trials	125.24	125.68	128.79	128.78	129.56	128.21	187.28	118.41	140.95	3.55	
Composite	116.58	116.53	115.95	116.06	116.22	115.46	132.14	107.34	140.52	4.47	
Ind. div. yield %											
								5.71	5.73	5.92	4.56
Ind. P/E Ratio								7.77	7.81	7.97	10.59
Long Gov. Bond yield								15.11	15.44	15.38	15.07
NY, S.E. ALL COMMON											
	Apr. 15	Apr. 15	Apr. 15	Apr. 15	Apr. 15	Apr. 15	Apr. 15	1982	(Apr. 15, Apr. 15, 1983)		
	Apr. 15	Apr. 15	Apr. 15	Apr. 15	Apr. 15	Apr. 15	Apr. 15	High	Low	High	Low
Apr. 15	Apr. 15	Apr. 15	Apr. 15	Apr. 15	Apr. 15	Apr. 15	Apr. 15	High <th>Low</th> <th>High</th> <th>Low</th>	Low	High	Low
66.9	65.67	66.76	66.66	71.20	62.82	(12/8)	Unchanged	462	485	486	486
							New lows	—	14	14	14
MONTREAL											
	Apr. 15	Apr. 15	Apr. 15	Apr. 15	Apr. 15	Apr. 15	Apr. 15	1982	(Apr. 15, Apr. 15, 1983)		
	Apr. 15	Apr. 15	Apr. 15	Apr. 15	Apr. 15	Apr. 15	Apr. 15	High	Low	High	Low
Apr. 15	Apr. 15	Apr. 15	Apr. 15	Apr. 15	Apr. 15	Apr. 15	Apr. 15	High <th>Low</th> <th>High</th> <th>Low</th>	Low	High	Low
Industrials	280.40	282.58	285.84	285.13	282.79	(4.1)	270.48	270.48	270.48	270.48	270.48
Combined	275.25	277.50	278.81	278.81	278.81	278.81	278.81	278.81	278.81	278.81	278.81
TORONTO Composite	1829.20	1830.21	1844.75	1844.75	1844.75	1844.75	1844.75	1844.75	1844.75	1844.75	1844.75
NEW YORK ACTIVE STOCKS.											
	Friday	Stocks	Closing	Change		Friday	Stocks	Closing	Change		
		traded	price	on	off			traded	price	on	off
Teleco	1,315,160	64	+	4	Schiltz	636,700	28	+	1		
IBM	1,058,600	64	+	4	Gen. Dynam.	386,000	28	+	1		
Telxon	697,700	25 1/2	—	—	Pogo Prod.	345,700	29 1/2	+	1		
RCA	697,700	23 1/2	—	—	Sony	328,100	22	+	1		
Avion	847,100	1 1/2	—	—	Mail	326,300	22	+	1		

	Apr. 15	Apr. 15	Apr. 15	Apr. 15	High	1933	Low
AUSTRALIA	474.5	478.5	475.1	472.5	536.5 (47)	465.1 (16)	322.2 (24)
UNITED STATES (1/1/39)	847.9	848.2	850.4	850.4	926.1 (87)	—	—
UNITED KINGDOM (1/1/38)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
AUSTRIA	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
credit Aktien (2/1/32)	92.35	92.94	92.58	92.87	99.38 (47)	82.28 (34)	—
BELGIUM	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Belgium SS (5/1/26)	90.55	90.70	180.00	101.14	182.45 (54)	86.42 (20/1)	—
DENMARK	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Copenhagen SS (1/1/19)	121.50	121.51	121.54	121.50	129.52 (25/2)	112.50 (30/5)	—
FRANCE	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
CFM General (2/1/37)	186.40	186.30	184.5	184.5	190.39 (164)	88.5 (37)	57.7 (4/1)
and Vendages (5/1/22/1)	110.10	110.10	110.10	110.10	124.0 (18/2)	—	—
GERMANY	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
CFM Aktien (5/1/26/4)	234.51	234.53	237.48	238.57	239.48 (54)	210.55 (19/1)	196.7 (18/1)
and Zentralsbank (Dec 1935)	716.40	719.00	724.9	727.5	732.5 (54)	—	—
HOLLAND	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
ANP-CSS General (1879)	50.8	51.79	52.8	52.5	52.4 (54)	54.5 (3)	55.1 (2/1)
ANP-CSS Indust (1970)	70.5	72.80	75.1	75.1	73.9 (54)	—	—
HONG KONG	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bank of China Bank (5/1/24)	1192.48	1201.25	1205.51	1210.45	1445.92 (12/1)	1129.55 (5/5)	—
ITALY	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Industria Comm Ital (1915)	161.85	162.47	191.57	193.85	212.66 (16/5)	161.46 (15/1)	—
JAPAN**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dow Average (1894/4)	7129.55	7129.55	7181.55	7225.05	7225.55 (27/1)	5885.55 (17/5)	520.75 (17/5)
and New York (5/1/30)	525.25	524.50	525.00	531.51	565.59 (27/1)	—	—
NORWAY	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Norwegian SS (1/1/22)	111.52	112.70	115.57	114.40	109.08 (1/1)	106.12 (1/4)	—
SINGAPORE	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
South Africa Times (1905)	745.57	747.28	745.24	745.52	810.78 (1/1)	857.48 (5/5)	—
SOUTH AFRICA	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gold (1955)	—	485.2	488.4	464.2	551.5 (5/1)	411.2 (5/1)	—
Industial (1955)	—	598.7	599.3	592.2	777.1 (5/1)	555.3 (28/5)	—
SPAIN	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Madrid SS (20/1/31)	101.47	101.50	101.55	102.10	102.45 (1/2)	98.17 (5/1)	—
SWEDEN	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Jacobson & P. (1/1/58)	561.04	561.04	565.41	567.55	566.53 (22/1)	577.52 (5/4)	—
SWITZERLAND	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Swiss Bank Cppn (5/1/2/53)	250.5	250.4	255.4	255.5	255.1 (11/1)	248.5 (11/5)	—
WORLD	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Capital Intd. (1/1/70)	—	132.5	135.0	135.3	147.5 (4/1)	128.1 (17/5)	—

(**) Set-April 3 Japan Dow 7,333.32. TSE 535.69.

Base value of all indices are 100 except Australia All Ordinary and Metals—
 100; NYSE All Common—50; Standard and Poors—10; and Toronto—1,000. The
 not named based on 1975. * Excluding bonds. * 4,000 Industrials. * 4,000
 Unavailable.

Ranger Oil	7	7 1/4	
Rio Algom	18 1/2	19 1/2	
Rio Algom	24 1/2	24 1/2	
Royal Bank	23 1/2	23 1/2	
Royal Trustco A	24 1/2	24 1/2	
Seapine Res.	6	6	
Seapine	6 1/2	6 1/2	
Shell Can Oil	17	17 1/2	
Shell of Can A	23 1/2	24	
Teak B.	7 1/2	7 1/2	
Trans Canada	26 1/2	26 1/2	
Thomson News A	21 1/2	21 1/2	
Transcan Bldg	22	22	
Transcan Pipe	21 1/2	21 1/2	
Trans Wmth. Oil A	17 1/2	18 1/2	
Univ. Sleno Bldg	20	20 1/2	
Walker (H) Res.	10 1/2	10 1/2	
Westcoast	23 1/2	23 1/2	
Weston (Fin)	26 1/2	26 1/2	

AUSTRIA		
April 16	Price %	+ or -
Creditanstalt	213	-
Länderbank	191	-
Mercombank	185	-
Seimper	65	+ 1
Steier Dalmer	166	-
Veitscher Bank	195	- 1

BELGIUM/LUXEMBOURG		
April 16	Price Frs.	+ or -
ARBEZ	1,402	- 88
Ban Int A Lux.	4,075	
Belkair 6	1,450	
Climent OPR	1,460	- 5
Gockellier	1,203	-
EBES	2,970	- 20
Electro	4,970	- 20
G.B. Nat.	2,670	- 20
G.B. Inno	2,670	- 20
GBL (Brux)	1,500	- 5
Gevaert	1,940	- 10
Hoboken	1,585	- 10
Intercom	1,500	- 5
Kreditbank	4,630	-
Pan Hlds	5,680	- 50

GERMANY		
April 16	Price %	+ or -
ABG-Telef	4	
Allianz Vera	48	
BAF	12	
BOYAG	20	
Bayer-Hypo	29	
Bayer-Verein	29	
BfW-Bank	22	
BHW	21	
Brenn Boveri	21	
Commerzbank	22	
Conti Gummi	20	
Daimler Benz	87	
Deugum	13	
Dresdner Bank	13	
D'sche Saabcock	22	
Deutsche Bank	27	
DU Schiff	17	
Elektron	18	
GIH	18	
Hapag Lloyd	6	
Hochst	12	
Hochst	12	
Holzmann (F)	40	
Hortons	11	
Karl and Salz	17	
Karstadt	17	
Kaufhof	14	
KMD	16	
Kloppkeim	17	
Koenig	17	
Linde	28	
Luthmans	14	
Mannesmann	17	
Mercedes Hys	26	
Messing	26	
Muench Rik	68	
Preussag	20	
Rhein West Bank	17	
Rosenfeld	26	
Schering	27	
Thyssen	26	
Varta	17	
Vebe	17	
Volkswagen	14	

+0.1	Grainblend	139	-1
+0.1	Grainblend	139	-1
+0.1	Kosmos	385	
-0.8	Norsk Hydro	210	-16
-0.9	Storebrand		
+0.8			
+0.9			
+2			
SWITZERLAND			
	April 16	Price	+ or -
		Frs	
	Aluluisse	500	-15
	Brown Boveri	1,080	-80
	Alfa-Geigy	1,890	+86
	Fischer (Gard)	475	-1
+ or	Credit Suisse	1,750	-50
	Elektrowatt	2,490	-50
	Hot-Rochepot	61,000	+600
-0.1	Hofmache 1/20	5,075	-50
-3.5	Hot-Rochepot	5,750	-50
-0.1	Jeinchi	1,870	-25
-0.1	Landis & Gyr	860	-50
-0.1	Nestle	5,225	+80
+0.1	Oer-Suhrle	1,230	-20
+2.5	Pirelli	1,334	-1
+0.1	Sandoz	475	-20
+0.4	Sandoz (Pb Cts)	521	
+0.4	Schindler (Pb Cts)	731	-5
+0.1	Swiss Volkbank	500	-5
-1	Swiss Reinsurance	5,950	-50
-0.1	Swiss Volksbank	2,000	-20
-0.5	Union Bank	3,060	-20
+0.5	Winterthur	2,800	-20
+0.5	Zurich Ins	15,100	-25
+2.5			
-0.6			
SWEDEN			
	April 16	Price	+ or -
		Kroner	
+0.5	AGA	200	
+1.5	Alfa-Laval	289	-1
+0.3	Asstra	289	+1
+1.5	Asstra	360	
+1.5	Atlas Copco	289	+1
-3	Cellulose	210	
+0.1	Cellulose	289	-1
+1.1	Electrolux &	490	+1.5
+0.1	Electrolux &	290	-5
+1	Escher (Free)	115	
+1	Fagersta	127	-2
+1	Fortia (Free)	115	-1
+1	Volvo (Free)	115	-1
+1.5	Saab-Skania	120	-2
+0.6	Sandvik (Free)	154	-1
+0.6	Sandvik (Free)	154	-1
+0.6	Skanska Enkilda	191	-4
+0.6	SKF B	125	+2
+1.4	Stenarps	96	+1
+0.5	Sven Handelsbank	96	
+0.5	Swedish Match	103	
+0.5	Volvo (Free)	141	

[illegible]

	Price	+ or -
2.98	-0.1	
2.98	-0.1	
4.94	-0.1	
4.94	-0.1	
3.27	-0.1	
9.7	-0.5	
4.12	-0.5	

	Price	+ or -
5.0	-0.1	
7.90	-0.1	
11.9	-0.1	
70.55	+0.7	
8.9	-1.6	
9.05	-	
2.35	-	
6.25	-	
25.5	-1.2	
25.5	-1.2	
1.75	-0.5	
62.5	-	
5.0	-	
39.5	+0.2	
15.65	-	
9.75	-	
4.9	-0.1	
c	+0.2	
2.60	-	
7.29	-	
18.5	-	
5.60	-	

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(at 173%).

	Price	+ or -
1.57	-0.1	
11.90	+0.1	
5.70	-0.1	
9.20	-0.1	
9.20	-0.1	
12.30	+0.1	

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de Janeiro SI

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Prices. C Dealing
Gr rights

Pirelli plans to unify its worldwide operations

BY RUPERT CORNWELL IN MILAN

m- division of responsibilities h
ly prevented the group from de

A further spin-off is likely to be the publication as early as next year of results from the next year of the *Worldwide* Societe Generale, which will effectively be the first consolidated accounts for the group. Its 1981 worldwide sales reached 1.5100bn (\$3.8bn).

The restructuring, which executives in Paris implies a reduction in Piaggio's commitment to Italy, will produce an integrated group employing 77,000 workers with 46 per cent of its sales in cables. 43 per

Setback for Straits Trading

By Georgie Lee in Singapore

Straits Trading

By Georgie Lee in Singapore

STRAITS TRADING Company is the investment holding and the concern which is part of the

Oversea-Chinese Banking Corporation group, suffered a pre-tax loss of S\$873.6m in profits in the year in December 1993 to S\$833.1m (US\$515.4m), recorded in addition an extraordinary gain of S\$873.6m.

The bank's operating income has been raised, to 34 per cent from 1990's 30 per cent, with a third payment of 18 cents, and the company has announced a total two-for-one share issue.

Profits before tax for the year fell by 34 per cent to S\$556.5 million at the pre-tax level.

● **COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS**, the Singapore food-processing group, has reported a fall of 10 per cent in its pre-tax operating profits for the year ended January, to S\$21.2 million (US\$9.0m). At the post tax

Commodity investment without tax.

**Commodity
investment
without tax.**

I.G. Index Limited,
9-11 Grosvenor Gardens,
London SW1W 0BD.
Telephone: 01-828 5000.

IG
INDEX

Disappointment on U.S. cocoa usage

MARKETS

(10.31). July 19 43-10.45 (10.57). St
10.74). Oct. 10.93-10.96 (10.87).
March 11.78-11.82 May 12.00-12.05
July 12.20 Sales; 9,010.
Tin—\$83.00-\$86.00 (same).
Chicago—Silver
Chicago—Indian Gold—(June 371.8-375.
376.0), Sept. 384.8-384.9 (388.7), D
Oct. 390.0-390.5 (390.0), Dec. 392.5-
393.0 (393.0), March 393.5, S
437.3.

Lard—Chicago loose 20.50 (20.25)
July Cattle—April 71.50-71.75
(71.67), June 67.15-67.25 (67.80),
63.20-63.25, Oct. 61.70-61.80, D
62.50-62.55, Feb. 62.60, April 62.85,
July Hogs—April 52.97-52.90 (53.30),
June 56.63-56.75 (57.20), July
57.60, Aug. 56.70-6.75, Oct. 54.75, D

295-304, June 5, 1963, June 28 (280), Jan
 1 (Maiden), March 21, 1964, March 22, 1964
 295-304, (290), Sept 28, 1963, Dec 27
 297, March 2104, May 318,
 Pork Bellies—M—
 (79 05), July 30-70 75 75 (78 47), At
 71 15, May 71 65, July 72 65, March
 71 15, May 71 65, July 72 65.
 1 Soybeans—M— 6435-560 (651)
 July 65-69 (1) (662), Aug 663, Sept 663
 Nov 628 629, Jan 681, March 695, 695
 1 Soybeans—M— 188-518
 (188 61), Sept 1-181 5 (192 3), At
 182 00-182 3, Sept 184 0-184 5, 0
 184 5-199 0, Dec 190 5-197 0, Jan 198
 188 0, March 204 5-205 0, May 206
 207 0.
 1 Soybeans Oil—M— 15 57-19
 (19 66), July 20 15-20 16 (20 24), Aug

DOW JONES

Down April 16 Month Year

Boat	127-59	128-17	124-02	408-12	180-13
Age	132-58	132-72	132-72	132-72	132-72
(Base: December 31 1974 - 100)					

REUTERS

April 16	April 15	16th	age	Yearago
1616.5	1614.8	1589.3		1669.5
(Base: September 18, 1931 - 100)				

In spirit of good demand for physical new sugar for world destinations, overnight weaker tones continued in all positions to trace a new life-of-the-center lows. Rumours of the withdrawal of Argentine troops from the Falkland Islands and the subsequent improvement in sterling might have added to the weaker sentiment, reports C. Szaszrok.

Sales: 3,772 (3,574) lots of 50 tonnes each, plus delivery price for 100 tonnes granted base of \$25.00 per tonne. \$274.00 (\$250.00) a tonne lot for home trade and (\$250.00) (same) for export.

International Sugar Agreement (15) cents per pound and growers of the Caribbean ports. Prices for April 15:

BY RUPERT CORNWELL IN MILAN

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Oct 387.0-387.1 (387.0), Dec 387.0,
437.3.
Lead—Chicago losses 20.50 (20.25)
Live Cattle—April 71.50-71.75
(71.67). June 67.15-67.25 (67.80).
63.20-63.25. Oct 67.10-67.80. D
62.50-62.55. Feb 62.60. April 62.85
Live Hogs—April 52.97-52.90 (53.30)
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 297, March 2104, May 318,
 Pork Bellies—M—
 (79 05), July 30-70 75 75 (78 47), Aug
 1963, 1964, 1965, 1966, 1967, 1968, Mar
 71, 15, May 71 65, July 72 65,
 1 Soybeans—M— 6435-50, (651)
 July 69-601 (662), Aug 663, Sept 663
 Nov 628 029, Jan 681, March 695, 695
 1 Soybeans Meal—M— 188 5-188
 (188 6), Sept 1-181 5-192, 3), A
 182 00-182, 3, Sept 184 0-194, 5, O
 194 5-199, 0, Dec 194 5-197, 0, Jan 198
 198, 198, March 204 5-205, 0, May 206
 207 0,
 Soybeans Oil—M— 15 57-19,
 (19 66), July 20 15-20 16 (20 24), Aug

DOW JONES

Down April 16 Month Year

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International Sugar Agreement (15) cents per pound and growers in Caribbean ports. Prices for April 15:

[illegible]

100	2	20	1	5	1				
90	3	15	1	5	1				
80	4	10	1	5	1				
70	5	5	1	5	1				
60	6	5	1	5	1				
50	7	5	1	5	1				
40	8	5	1	5	1				
30	9	5	1	5	1				
20	10	5	1	5	1				
10	11	5	1	5	1				
0	12	5	1	5	1				
100	1	20	1	5	1				
90	2	15	1	5	1				
80	3	10	1	5	1				
70	4	5	1	5	1				
60	5	5	1	5	1				
50	6	5	1	5	1				
40	7	5	1	5	1				
30	8	5	1	5	1				
20	9	5	1	5	1				
10	10	5	1	5	1				
0	11	5	1	5	1				
100	12	5	1	5	1				
90	1	20	1	5	1				
80	2	15	1	5	1				
70	3	10	1	5	1				
60	4	5	1	5	1				
50	5	5	1	5	1				
40	6	5	1	5	1				
30	7	5	1	5	1				
20	8	5	1	5	1				
10	9	5	1	5	1				
0	10	5	1	5	1				
100	11	5	1	5	1				
90	12	5	1	5	1				
80	1	20	1	5	1				
70	2	15	1	5	1				
60	3	10	1	5	1				
50	4	5	1	5	1				
40	5	5	1	5	1				
30	6	5	1	5	1				
20	7	5	1	5	1				
10	8	5	1	5	1				
0	9	5	1	5	1				
100	10	5	1	5	1				
90	11	5	1	5	1				
80	12	5	1	5	1				
70	1	20	1	5	1				
60	2	15	1	5	1				
50	3	10	1	5	1				
40	4	5	1	5	1				
30	5	5	1	5	1				
20	6	5	1	5	1				
10	7	5	1	5	1				
0	8	5	1	5	1				
100	9	5	1	5	1				
90	10	5	1	5	1				
80	11	5	1	5	1				
70	12	5	1	5	1				
60	1	20	1	5	1				
50	2	15	1	5	1				
40	3	10	1	5	1				
30	4	5	1	5	1				
20	5	5	1	5	1				
10	6	5	1	5	1				
0	7	5	1	5	1				
100	8	5	1	5	1				
90	9	5	1	5	1				
80	10	5	1	5	1				
70	11	5	1	5	1				

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Great Ind. Sack 120.839 0.703 121.55
Great Ind. Sack 120.796 0.603 121.65
Prices on April 24, Next dealing April 27.

[illegible][illegible][illegible][illegible]

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BRITISH FUNDS

Table with 4 columns: Fund Name, Price, % Change, and Dividend Yield. Includes funds like "Shorts (Lives up to Five Years)", "Treasury 1992-1993", "Treasury 1993-1994", etc.

Five to Fifteen Years

Table with 4 columns: Fund Name, Price, % Change, and Dividend Yield. Includes funds like "Treasury 1994-1995", "Treasury 1995-1996", "Treasury 1996-1997", etc.

Over Fifteen Years

Table with 4 columns: Fund Name, Price, % Change, and Dividend Yield. Includes funds like "Treasury 1997-1998", "Treasury 1998-1999", "Treasury 1999-2000", etc.

Undated

Table with 4 columns: Fund Name, Price, % Change, and Dividend Yield. Includes funds like "Treasury 2000-2001", "Treasury 2001-2002", "Treasury 2002-2003", etc.

Index-Linked & Variable Rate

Table with 4 columns: Fund Name, Price, % Change, and Dividend Yield. Includes funds like "Treasury 2003-2004", "Treasury 2004-2005", "Treasury 2005-2006", etc.

INT. BANK AND O'SEAS GOVT. STERLING ISSUES

Table with 4 columns: Issuer, Price, % Change, and Dividend Yield. Includes issues from Finland, UK, and Sweden.

CORPORATION LOANS

Table with 4 columns: Issuer, Price, % Change, and Dividend Yield. Includes loans from various corporations.

COMMONWEALTH AND AFRICAN LOANS

Table with 4 columns: Issuer, Price, % Change, and Dividend Yield. Includes loans from Commonwealth and African countries.

LOANS

Table with 4 columns: Issuer, Price, % Change, and Dividend Yield. Includes various public and industrial loans.

Public Bond and Ind.

Table with 4 columns: Issuer, Price, % Change, and Dividend Yield. Includes public bonds and industrial loans.

AMERICANS

Table with 4 columns: Issuer, Price, % Change, and Dividend Yield. Includes American corporate and government securities.

FT SHARE INFORMATION SERVICE

LOANS—Continued

Table with 4 columns: Issuer, Price, % Change, and Dividend Yield. Includes various international loans.

FOREIGN BONDS & RAILS

Table with 4 columns: Issuer, Price, % Change, and Dividend Yield. Includes foreign bonds and rail securities.

AMERICANS

Table with 4 columns: Issuer, Price, % Change, and Dividend Yield. Includes American corporate and government securities.

BEERS, WINES AND SPIRITS

Table with 4 columns: Issuer, Price, % Change, and Dividend Yield. Includes securities related to the beverage industry.

BUILDING INDUSTRY, TIMBER AND ROADS

Table with 4 columns: Issuer, Price, % Change, and Dividend Yield. Includes securities related to construction and infrastructure.

CANADIANS

Table with 4 columns: Issuer, Price, % Change, and Dividend Yield. Includes Canadian corporate and government securities.

BANKS AND HIRE PURCHASE

Table with 4 columns: Issuer, Price, % Change, and Dividend Yield. Includes securities related to banking and finance.

CHIMICALS, PLASTICS—Cont.

Table with 4 columns: Issuer, Price, % Change, and Dividend Yield. Includes securities related to the chemical and plastic industries.

ENGINEERING—Continued

Table with 4 columns: Issuer, Price, % Change, and Dividend Yield. Includes securities related to the engineering industry.

DRAPERY AND STORES

Table with 4 columns: Issuer, Price, % Change, and Dividend Yield. Includes securities related to retail and clothing.

FT SHARE INFORMATION SERVICE

BANKS & H.P.—Cont.

Table with 4 columns: Issuer, Price, % Change, and Dividend Yield. Includes various international loans.

FOREIGN BONDS & RAILS

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FOOD, GROCERIES—Cont.

Table with 4 columns: Issuer, Price, % Change, and Dividend Yield. Includes securities related to the food and grocery industries.

HOTELS AND CATERERS

Table with 4 columns: Issuer, Price, % Change, and Dividend Yield. Includes securities related to the hotel and catering industries.

INDUSTRIALS (Misc.)

Table with 4 columns: Issuer, Price, % Change, and Dividend Yield. Includes various industrial securities.

BEERS, WINES AND SPIRITS

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Oil and Gas—Continued

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776	Venterspost RI	370	-6	10235c	1.6
116	Western Area Ri	165		040c	3.4
101	Western Area Ri	165		040c	3.4

		Q.F.S.							
150	Free State Dev. 50c	175		047%	1,934	1.00			
149	F. & S. 50c	175		047%	1,934	1.00			
148	Lamarine 50c	175		047%	1,934	1.00			
147	Harvey 50c	175		047%	1,934	1.00			
146	Harvey 50c	175		047%	1,934	1.00			
145	Pres. Steyn 50c	175		047%	1,934	1.00			
144	Pres. Steyn 50c	175		047%	1,934	1.00			
143	Pres. Steyn 50c	175		047%	1,934	1.00			
142	Pres. Steyn 50c	175		047%	1,934	1.00			
141	Pres. Steyn 50c	175		047%	1,934	1.00			
140	Pres. Steyn 50c	175		047%	1,934	1.00			
139	Pres. Steyn 50c	175		047%	1,934	1.00			
138	Pres. Steyn 50c	175		047%	1,934	1.00			
137	Pres. Steyn 50c	175		047%	1,934	1.00			
136	Pres. Steyn 50c	175		047%	1,934	1.00			
135	Pres. Steyn 50c	175		047%	1,934	1.00			
134	Pres. Steyn 50c	175		047%	1,934	1.00			
133	Pres. Steyn 50c	175		047%	1,934	1.00			
132	Pres. Steyn 50c	175		047%	1,934	1.00			
131	Pres. Steyn 50c	175		047%	1,934	1.00			
130	Pres. Steyn 50c	175		047%	1,934	1.00			
129	Pres. Steyn 50c	175		047%	1,934	1.00			
128	Pres. Steyn 50c	175		047%	1,934	1.00			
127	Pres. Steyn 50c	175		047%	1,934	1.00			
126	Pres. Steyn 50c	175		047%	1,934	1.00			
125	Pres. Steyn 50c	175		047%	1,934	1.00			
124	Pres. Steyn 50c	175		047%	1,934	1.00			
123	Pres. Steyn 50c	175		047%	1,934	1.00			
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114	Pres. Steyn 50c	175		047%	1,934	1.00			
113	Pres. Steyn 50c	175		047%	1,934	1.00			
112	Pres. Steyn 50c	175		047%	1,934	1.00			
111	Pres. Steyn 50c	175		047%	1,934	1.00			
110	Pres. Steyn 50c	175		047%	1,934	1.00			
109	Pres. Steyn 50c	175		047%	1,934	1.00			
108	Pres. Steyn 50c	175		047%	1,934	1.00			
107	Pres. Steyn 50c	175		047%	1,934	1.00			
106	Pres. Steyn 50c	175		047%	1,934	1.00			
105	Pres. Steyn 50c	175		047%	1,934	1.00			
104	Pres. Steyn 50c	175		047%	1,934	1.00			
103	Pres. Steyn 50c	175		047%	1,934	1.00			
102	Pres. Steyn 50c	175		047%	1,934	1.00			
101	Pres. Steyn 50c	175		047%	1,934	1.00			

		Finance							
29	Alfa Corp. 10c	22		00.94	3.6	1.00			
28	Ang. Am. Conf. 50c	213		0110%	3.6	1.00			
27	Ang. Am. Conf. 50c	213		0110%	3.6	1.00			
26	Ang. Am. Conf. 50c	213		0110%	3.6	1.00			
25	Ang. Am. Conf. 50c	213		0110%	3.6	1.00			
24	Ang. Am. Conf. 50c	213		0110%	3.6	1.00			
23	Ang. Am. Conf. 50c	213		0110%	3.6	1.00			
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6	Ang. Am. Conf. 50c	213		0110%	3.6	1.00			
5	Ang. Am. Conf. 50c	213		0110%	3.6	1.00			
4	Ang. Am. Conf. 50c	213		0110%	3.6	1.00			
3	Ang. Am. Conf. 50c	213		0110%	3.6	1.00			
2	Ang. Am. Conf. 50c	213		0110%	3.6	1.00			
1	Ang. Am. Conf. 50c	213		0110%	3.6	1.00			

Diamond and Platinum

364	1223	Anglo-American 50c	6780	+	1
365	1293	De Beers DI. 5c	350	+	15
80	650	Do. 40pc PF. 25c	680	6200	
50	1190	Impala Plat. 20c	250	10110	2.0
78	1105	Lydenburg 12c	340	940c	1.0
28	104	Ros. Plat. 10c	135	3040c	2.113
			+2		

MAN IN THE NEWS

'Haig needs a win badly'

BY REGINALD DALE

IN THE LAST nine days, Mr Alexander Haig, the U.S. State Secretary, has flown over 26,000 miles—more than the circumference of the globe—in his bid to defuse the Falklands crisis by Transatlantic shuttle diplomacy. By Thursday, when he set off again from Washington to Buenos Aires, he was already "triple jet-lagged," in the only half-joking words of one of his aides.



Alexander Haig

a win badly," said one senior White House official this week. The Falklands dispute is the first major foreign policy crisis over which Mr Haig has assumed unfettered personal control—although he reports regularly on the talks to President Reagan. "It's really his baby and he's reeling in it," said another Washington official.

It was, however, typical of the erratic side of Mr Haig's character that the whole mission was delayed for half a day by his refusal to fly to London in an aircraft that had no windows and interior communications and sleeping facilities. The resulting snags between Mr Haig's State Department and the White House has been extensively, and damagingly, reported by the American media this week.

Many times since he assumed office 15 months ago, Mr Haig has appeared to be walking a precarious tightrope over the lion's den of political Washington.

His nervous televised outburst — "I am in control here" — after the attempted assassination of Mr Reagan a year ago prompted much speculation that he would not be long in his job. But he has held on, helped in part by his ideological proximity to Mr Reagan and, more recently, by the resignation of Mr Richard Allen as the President's

French award big financial concessions to employers

BY TERRY DODSWORTH IN PARIS

M. PIERRE MAUROU, the French Prime Minister handed out substantial financial concessions yesterday to employers in an effort to stimulate investment and win the support of private industry.

The measures, which include a pause in the push toward the 35-hour working week, show a significant shift in the Government's economic strategy on policies advocated by employers.

At the same time they may alienate trade union support.

Their overall effect will be to shift some costs formerly borne by industry either on to the taxpayer or the consumer.

Signs that French investment has not picked up as hoped in the wake of the recent inflationary boom to consumer spending has added urgency to the Government's plans. These include:

● Reduction of FFfr 12bn (£1bn), spread over 1982-83, in the "taxe professionnelle," a type of local rate levied on the basis of payroll and fixed capital. This is expected to cut industrial costs by about 10 per cent, and will be financed by increases in value-added tax and

levies on the banks.

● A freeze on the portion of social security charges carried by industry until July next year. Financing of this change will be through a mixture of economies in spending and a gradual switch of spending for handicapped people to the central budget from the separate social security budget.

● A halt to Government-enforced reductions in working hours until the end of 1983, though industry and the unions could negotiate deals if they wished.

Mr Yvon Gattaz, the employers' leader, who recently dismissed his meetings with the Prime Minister as "tourist trips," said yesterday that the Government had "made a step" toward meeting the demands of industry.

He added that the concessions were still insufficient, and regretted that more short-term measures had not been taken. The Government moves follow a long campaign by M. Gattaz for a reduction in employers' tax and social security costs.

He contends that these are now far higher than for most of France's trading partners, particularly West Germany, and that they have risen by about FFfr 90bn this year as a result of higher taxes and the new working hours legislation.

M. Gattaz, newly-appointed president of the Patronat, the employers' federation, is regarded as a political moderate. The Government has been concerned in recent weeks to win his backing.

The target of a 35-hour working week by 1985 is still on the Government programme.

But the withdrawal of legislative backing is a clear concession to the employers' contention that the recent working week reduction to 39 hours, combined with the grant of a fifth holiday week, has led to a big increase in industrial costs. The Patronat puts the increase at around FFfr 50bn, and the Government at FFfr 12bn.

This move is likely to antagonise the Communist-led CGT union federation in particular. It insists that it is the Government's responsibility to legislate on the working hours issue.

Print union holds up publication of free newspaper for Clydeside

BY ALAN PIKE, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

THE Society of Graphical and Allied Trades (Sogat) is refusing to produce a new 300,000-circulation free newspaper in what may become the biggest challenge yet over the impact of freeshoots on the traditional paid-for Press.

The first editions of the weekly Clyde Post—described by its owners as the largest free newspaper covering a single UK city—should have appeared in Glasgow this week.

Production was prevented by Sogat action. The union's national executive has decided to continue to boycott the newspaper, published by a company owned by Thomson Regional Newspapers.

Mr Bill Keys, general secretary of Sogat, said yesterday: "Free newspapers are hitting the legitimate provincial Press in the same way that the bingo war between popular national newspapers is threatening the future of Fleet Street."

"Mr executive is taking a very strong line of opposition to this development. It is time to look very closely at the effect which free newspapers are having on the Press."

The Sogat executive decided to maintain its opposition to the Clyde Post in spite of the fact that the publishers have said they are taking legal advice. Sogat is in a strong position to hit the project because in Scotland it represents many grades of print workers throughout the industry.

Concern about the launch of the Clyde Post has also been expressed by the National Union of Journalists.

South of the border, free newspapers take a substantial proportion of provincial newspaper advertising revenue with production of at least 15m copies a week, although they are less developed in Scotland. Trade union fears about them include the facts that they often employ far fewer journalists and have much more limited news content than traditional paid-for newspapers, and are frequently circulated outside the normal distribution system.

There are also worries that they can sometimes force established newspapers out of business, and this concern is evident in the Glasgow case.

George Outram, publisher of the Glasgow Herald, Evening Times and Sunday Standard, has plans for a rival free newspaper to the Clyde Post, although this is unlikely to appear until the dispute over the Thomson publication is resolved. Some journalists and production workers at George Outram fear that an advertising war between the two freeshoots could destroy the Evening Times, Glasgow's only surviving evening newspaper.

Executives who have been preparing the Clyde Post reject the view that their free newspaper will simply attract advertising from elsewhere. They say that the vast majority of advertisers who booked space in what should have been the first issue this week had not advertised in other local media in recent years.

The Clyde Post is designed to have six zoned editions, three on either side of the Clyde. Each edition will contain local editorial and advertising, and advertisers will receive discounts based upon the number of zones for which they buy space. Distribution of the newspaper will be in the hands of nearly 1,300 people who will deliver it to homes.

The proposed sale, which has met with opposition from the RDL workers, is to be discussed at York on Wednesday at a special union delegates' meeting.

Unions object to what they see as the "give-away" price which Trafalgar has offered, the apparent monopoly the sale would create and to the number of redundancies—600-700 in the first year—which would ensue.

There have also been claims, which BSC has sought to counter, that Trafalgar Group's pension rights would be less advantageous than those which RDL's manual workers recently secured.

The proposed sale to Trafalgar is being scrutinised by the Office of Fair Trading, which is expected to decide by the end of the month whether to advise the Trade Secretary to refer it to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

BSC asked to delay sale of Redpath

By Maurice Samuelson

THE British Steel Corporation is being asked to delay by one month the sale of Redpath Dorman Long, its heavy engineering subsidiary, to the Trafalgar House Group so that an alternative plan for RDL's purchase by its workforce can be fully explored.

The appeal to the corporation will be made on Monday by one of the nine unions represented at RDL, after being told by its accountants that an employee purchase is "within the bounds of financial possibility."

That was the advice which the Steel Industry Management Association received yesterday from the City accountants Peat Marwick Mitchell, which said it needed a month in which to pursue the matter with one of the four main clearing banks.

Mr Frank Collins, the association's national secretary, said last night that a month in which to determine the feasibility of otherwise of an employee purchase was "really very little indeed."

But the BSC and RDL would know whether the scheme were feasible. If so, he envisaged the end product as a company in the private sector "maintaining RDL's business expertise, ensuring essential competition and keeping its top level management team together."

BSC had a duty to RDL's employees "at least to give the alternative a chance," he said. At the beginning of April, BSC announced it had agreed to sell RDL for £10m to the Trafalgar House Group, which controls Cleveland Bridge and Engineering, RDL's principal competitor in the UK heavy steel structures industry.

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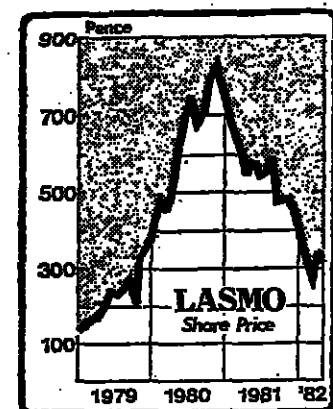
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THE LEX COLUMN

Redland raises the roof

Index rose 5.9 to 550.7



a new area, while the concrete and aggregates operations of the two groups will make a neat geographic fit. Their combined market share will not exceed about 5 per cent in either industry, so there is no obvious competition problem to worry the Office of Fair Trading. But after the recent flurry of takeover activity in the building materials sector, the OFT may want to examine the general state of play.

Markets

For those who think of investment as an exact science it is tiresome to see the mighty gilt-edged market completely in thrall to the ebb and flow of rumour about events 8,000 miles away. While in mid-week the stories emanating from

mischievous-makers in the foreign exchange markets were generally unfavourable to sterling, by yesterday they had begun to move the other way, and market sentiment moved with them.

Fears that the Falklands expedition might prove exceptionally costly have tended to drive down this week, even £500m, after all, is within the margin of error for a single quarter's government borrowing. Fears of political upheaval have receded, for the moment at least, as the Prime Minister's control of the situation seems to have become more secure.

But worries about upward pressure on interest rates transmitted through the exchange rate refuse to die down, especially since dollar interest rates have been moving upwards. Yesterday morning interbank rates in London moved above 14 per cent almost throughout the maturity spectrum. And

apart from the tax advantages, the deal makes good sense. Cawoods is a mature, cash generating company with uncertain management succession. It brings with it £10m of cash, together with £16m of leased asset. Borrowings will fall to 27 per cent of net tangible assets in the enlarged group.

Cawoods' fuel distribution division will take Redland into

although the Bank of England, when dealing in very short bills for the first time in nearly a fortnight, actually dropped its intervention rate. (The money market yield curve has changed shape completely in the last 10 days) the City remained windy as the Treasury bill tender approached.

The Bank took the unusual step of cutting down the tender, allotting only £50m of the £100m of bills originally on offer. Even so, the average bill rate rose from 12.8 per cent to 13.2 per cent, but the Bank allotted that fall £100m, the rate would presumably have been a good bit higher. The topping of the tender was a clear enough signal that the authorities saw no reason for a rise in rates, and the money markets ended the day in a calmer mood: rumour did the rest.

Chloride

Earlier rounds of retrenchment proved inadequate, at Chloride, and yesterday its company announced that it was pulling out of car replacement parts distribution and planning to sell 49 of the 70 depots operated by Chloride Gador.

A couple of years ago Gador was a lively earnings contributor, but the operating loss is currently running at the rate of £2m a year. So there is a strong chance that Chloride will obtain less than the £10.1m book value in a sell-off, possibly to management. On top of any shortfall here, the balance sheet will have to bear £5m or so in reorganisation costs, which will be mostly cash items.

The announcement comes hard on the heels of BL's decision to switch to single sourcing for batteries—and Lucas rather than Chloride. So much for Sir Michael Edwards' chances of returning to Chloride. In the original equipment market the company is now dependent on Ford, which has been stepping up its imports. Meanwhile the pick up in the replacement market at the beginning of the year, due to the bad weather and rail dispute, has petered out, and price competition is as tough as ever.

So Chloride's profits for the year just completed are likely to be negligible, and net debt may have moved back up to 100 per cent of shareholders' funds, in spite of the rights issue. With more disposals on the cards, the purchase of a 15 per cent stake by CRA is the main bolster for the shares, unchanged yesterday at 26p.

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